



Office of the Auditor General of Canada
Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

17 August 2012

Your File Votre référence

2012-145

Our File Notre référence

A-2012-00002

[REDACTED]
NDP Caucus Services
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear [REDACTED]:

This letter is in response to your request under the Access to Information Act for:

"All e-mails to or from Michael Ferguson, Jocelyne Therrien, Susan Wheeler, Liette Duhamel, Marie-Josée Gougeon, Dominique Forest and Françoise Guyot relating to the topic of the Auditor General appearing at a Parliamentary Committee from the dates of January 17, 2012 to April 17, 2012."

Attached are the documents that we are able to provide in response to your request at this time. We are currently consulting with third parties regarding some documents that were identified as relevant to your request. When these consultations are completed, we will provide you with the remaining documents.

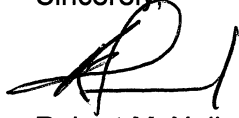
Some parts of the attached records have been redacted. You will note that the exemption and exclusion provisions sections 16.1(1)(a), 19(1), 20(1)(c), 20(1)(d), 21(1)(a), 21(1)(b), 23 and 68(a) of the Act have been applied. A copy of the relevant sections of the Act is attached.

Please be advised that you are entitled to complain to the Information Commissioner concerning the processing of your request. In the event you decide to avail yourself of this right, your notice of complaint should be addressed to:

Office of the Information Commissioner
Tower B, Place de Ville
112 Kent Street, 22nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 1H3

Should you have questions on the handling of your request, please feel free to contact me at 613-952-0213 extension 6455.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. McNeil', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Robert McNeil
Coordinator
Access to Information and Privacy

Enclosures

Access to Information Act

Records relating to investigations, examinations and audits

16.1 (1) The following heads of government institutions shall refuse to disclose any record requested under this Act that contains information that was obtained or created by them or on their behalf in the course of an investigation, examination or audit conducted by them or under their authority:

- (a) the Auditor General of Canada;
-

Personal information

19. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the head of a government institution shall refuse to disclose any record requested under this Act that contains personal information as defined in section 3 of the *Privacy Act*.

Third party information

20. (1) Subject to this section, the head of a government institution shall refuse to disclose any record requested under this Act that contains

- (a) trade secrets of a third party;
 - (b) financial, commercial, scientific or technical information that is confidential information supplied to a government institution by a third party and is treated consistently in a confidential manner by the third party;
 - (b.1) information that is supplied in confidence to a government institution by a third party for the preparation, maintenance, testing or implementation by the government institution of emergency management plans within the meaning of section 2 of the *Emergency Management Act* and that concerns the vulnerability of the third party's buildings or other structures, its networks or systems, including its computer or communications networks or systems, or the methods used to protect any of those buildings, structures, networks or systems;
 - (c) information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in material financial loss or gain to, or could reasonably be expected to prejudice the competitive position of, a third party; or
 - (d) information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to interfere with contractual or other negotiations of a third party.
-

Advice, etc.

21. (1) The head of a government institution may refuse to disclose any record requested under this Act that contains

- (a) advice or recommendations developed by or for a government institution or a minister of the Crown,
 - (b) an account of consultations or deliberations in which directors, officers or employees of a government institution, a minister of the Crown or the staff of a minister participate,
-

Solicitor-client privilege

23. The head of a government institution may refuse to disclose any record requested under this Act that contains information that is subject to solicitor-client privilege.

Act does not apply to certain materials

68. This Act does not apply to

- (a) published material or material available for purchase by the public;
-

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: April 24, 2012 11:06 AM
To: Dugas Patry, Viviane
Subject: ATIP request FW: Tabling Day - MP Preview - April 3, 2012 / Journée du dépôt - Préexamen des parlementaires - 3 avril 2012
Attachments: PROXI-#726437-v1-2012 04 Report - Tabling Kit - Staff.DOC; PROXI-#726407-v1-2012 04 Report - Tabling Kit responsibilities.DOC
Importance: High

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: March 30, 2012 9:13 AM
To: Loschiuk, Wendy; Berthelette, Jerome; MacLellan, Clyde; McMahon, Marian; Cheng, Nancy; Laplante, Maurice; Levita, Leslie
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Desjardins, Ghislain; Wheeler, Susan; Dugas Patry, Viviane; Ethier, Karine
Subject: Tabling Day - MP Preview - April 3, 2012 / Journée du dépôt - Préexamen des parlementaires - 3 avril 2012
Importance: High

Bonjour à tous,

Below and attached you will find information regarding the MP Preview for the AG Report on Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

(Le français suit)

MP PREVIEW

The confidential Preview for MPs and Senators will be held on April 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in Room 237-C, Center Block. The AG will provide a briefing to parliamentarians hosted by the Public Accounts Committee from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

The time code for Tabling Day attendance is 000334-29.

Name tags for the preview will be provided when you arrive on Tuesday morning. These OAG name tags should be worn at all times.

For those of you without permanent House of Commons passes, we will contact you as soon as the daily passes are ready, most probably on Monday.

Thank you.

(see attached for more information)

*

PRÉEXAMEN DES DÉPUTÉS

Le préexamen confidentiel pour les députés aura lieu de 8 h à 10 h30 , le mardi 3 avril prochain, à la salle 237-C de l'Édifice du Centre. La séance d'information pour les parlementaires qu'accordera le VG se déroulera de 9 h à 10 h . Cette séance sera tenue par le Comité des comptes publics.

Le code de temps pour la journée est: 000334-29.

Les étiquettes d'identification vous seront remises à votre arrivée mardi matin. Elles doivent être portées en tout temps.

Pour ceux et celles qui n'ont pas de laissez-passer permanent pour la Chambre des Communes, nous communiquerons avec vous dès que les passes journalières seront disponibles probablement lundi.

Merci.

(Voir les documents ci-joints pour plus de détails.)

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TABLING DAY

3 April 2012

LE FRANÇAIS SUIT

MP PREVIEW	
Parliament Hill, Room 237-C, Centre Block	
7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Jocelyne Therrien, Véronique Dupuis, Marie-Josée Gougeon, Liette Duhamel, Karine Ethier
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Wendy Loschiuk, Jerome Berthelette, Nancy Cheng, Marian McMahon, Maurice Laplante, Clyde MacLellan
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Mike Ferguson, Leslie Levita

PAC briefing from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. The AG will provide an overview of the Report.

000003

JOURNÉE DU DÉPÔT DU RAPPORT

Le 3 avril 2012

PRÉEXAMEN DES DÉPUTÉS	
Colline du Parlement, édifice du centre, pièce 237-C	
7 h 30 à 10 h 30	Jocelyne Therrien, Véronique Dupuis, Marie-Josée Gougeon, Liette Duhamel, Karine Ethier
8 h 30 à 10 h 30	Wendy Loschiuk, Jerome Berthelette, Nancy Cheng, Marian McMahon, Maurice Laplante, Clyde MacLellan
9 h à 10 h	Mike Ferguson, Leslie Levita

Séance d'information de 9 h à 10 h. Le vérificateur général fera une présentation sommaire du Rapport.

000004

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR TABLING DAY

3 April 2012

Le français suit

MP Preview
8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Parliament Hill, Room 2375, Centre Block

#	Chapter	OAG representatives
	Message from the Auditor General	Mike Ferguson
1	Border Controls on Commercial Imports	Wendy Loschiuk
2	Replacing Canada's Fighter Jets	Jerome Berthelette
3	Interest-Bearing Debt	Nancy Cheng
4	Non-Filers and Non-Registrants—Canada Revenue Agency	Marian McMahon
5	Oversight of Civil Aviation—Transport Canada	Maurice Laplante
6	Special Examinations of Crown Corporations—2011	Clyde MacLellan

000005

RESPONSABILITÉS POUR LES ACTIVITÉS DU DÉPÔT

Le 3 avril 2012



Sujets		Responsable
	Message du vérificateur général	Mike Ferguson
1	Les contrôles frontaliers visant les importations commerciales	Wendy Loschiuk
2	Le remplacement des avions de combat du Canada	Jerome Berthelette
3	La dette portant intérêt	Nancy Cheng
4	Les non-déclarants et les non-inscrits — Agence du revenu du Canada	Marian McMahon
5	La surveillance de l'aviation civile — Transports Canada	Maurice Laplante
6	Les examens spéciaux des sociétés d'État — 2011	Clyde MacLellan

000006

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: April 24, 2012 11:07 AM
To: Dugas Patry, Viviane
Subject: ATP FW: Updated Notice of Meeting SOCI hearing Apr 4, 2012

From: Dupuis, Veronique
Sent: March 29, 2012 4:02 PM
To: Maxwell, Neil; Dubé, Louise
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Duhamel, Liette; Wheeler, Susan; Desjardins, Ghislain; O'Shaughnessy, Shailagh
Subject: Updated Notice of Meeting SOCI hearing Apr 4, 2012

Notice of Meeting

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

4:15 PM

[Previous Meeting](#)

Televised live on PTN

 Webcast

 Subject to Change

Location: Room 2, Victoria Building 140 Wellington Street

Clerk : Jessica Richardson (613) 990-6087

Agenda

1. Study on prescription pharmaceuticals in Canada

Witnesses

Health Canada

- Paul Glover, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Products and Food Branch (HPFB)
- Barbara Sabourin, Director General, Therapeutic Products Directorate, HPFB

Office of the Auditor General of Canada

- Neil Maxwell, Assistant Auditor General
- Louise Dubé, Principal

Véronique Dupuis, M.Sc.

Parliamentary Liaison Officer | Agente de Liaison avec le Parlement

Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

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are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Page 13

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Page 14

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Pages 15 to / à 16
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Page 17

is not relevant

est non pertinente

Page 18

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Frappier, Julie

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: April 11, 2012 11:47 AM
To: LIST-DX-TO-AG
Subject: Parliamentary summary - Week of Apr 2-5 / Sommaire parlementaire - semaine du 2 au 5 avril
Attachments: PROXI-#732102-v2-Weekly parliamentary summary - April 2-5 2012.DOCX

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

Liette Duhamel
Parliamentary Liaison Coordinator | Coordonnatrice, Liaison avec le Parlement
Parliamentary Liaison | Liaison avec le Parlement
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
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Facsimile | Télécopieur 613-957-0474
Teletypewriter | Téléimprimeur 613-954-8042

Reports from Committees

- The Standing Committee on Finance presented its Eighth Report, Bill C-311, An Act to amend the Importation of Intoxicating Liquors Act (interprovincial importation of wine for personal use).
- The Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights presented its Ninth Report, Bill C-217, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (mischief relating to war memorials), with amendment.
- The Standing Committee on Public Accounts presented its Fifth Report, Chapter 1, Financial Management and Control and Risk Management, of the 2011 Status Report of the Auditor General of Canada.
- The Standing Committee on Public Accounts presented its Sixth Report, Chapter 3, Reserve Force Pension Plan—National Defence, of the Spring 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada.
- The Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities presented its Second Report, Main Estimates 2012-13: Votes 55 and 60 under FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE, votes 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55 and 60 under TRANSPORT.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

- The spring 2012 report of the Auditor General of Canada
- Copy of the Second Protocol amending the Convention between Canada and the Republic of Austria for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital, done at Vienna on 9 December 1976, as amended by the Protocol done at Vienna on 15 June 1999, and Explanatory Memorandum, dated March 9, 2012
- The report of the Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) concerning its participation at the 57th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, held in London, United Kingdom, from July 21 to 28, 2011
- The document entitled "Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality 2008-2013: Acting for the Future - Mid-term Report
- Independent Review of the Remote Sensing Space Systems Act, pursuant to the Remote Sensing Space Systems Act, S.C. 2005, c. 45, sbs. 45.1(2).
- Report of the Governor of the Bank of Canada and Statement of Accounts, together with the Auditors' Report, for the year ended December 31, 2011, pursuant to the Bank of Canada Act, R.S. 1985, c. B-2, sbs. 30(3).

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

The Committee continued its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

- The Committee continued its study of the statutory review of the Lobbying Act.

Agriculture and Agri-Food

- The Committee continued its study of the Food Supply Chain.

Canadian Heritage

The Committee continued its study of Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017.

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Citizenship and Immigration

- Immigration Minister Jason Kenney will appear before the committee to discuss his department's main estimates on April 24th.
- The committee resumed its study "Standing on Guard for Thee: Ensuring that Canada's Immigration System is Secure".

Environment and Sustainable Development

- The Committee resumed its study to provide recommendations regarding the development of a national conservation plan.
- The committee agreed to hear from Canada's Oil Sands Innovation Alliance, to discuss the anticipated positive environmental outcomes of their mandate at their earliest convenience.

Finance

- The Committee continued its review of Bill C-311, An Act to amend the Importation of Intoxicating Liquors Act (interprovincial importation of wine for personal use).
- The Committee met in camera and commenced its study of the documents related to the F-35 and CF-18.

Fisheries and Oceans

- The Committee heard from officials of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (David Gillis, David Burden and Michelle Wheatley) on its study on invasive species that pose a threat to the Great Lakes system.

Government Operations and Estimates

The Committee continued its study of the process for considering estimates and supply and heard from Robert Marleau and John Williams.

Health

- The Committee commenced its study of the role of government and industry in determining drug supply in Canada. Health Canada officials appeared before the committee on this subject on April 3rd.

Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

- The Committee continued its study of Fixing the Skills Gap: Addressing Existing Labour Shortages in High Demand Occupations and Understanding Labour Shortages: Addressing Barriers to Filling Low-Skilled Jobs.

Industry

- The Committee continued its study of the e-commerce market in Canada.

Justice and Human Rights

- The Committee met to review Bill 217, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (mischief relating to war memorials).
- Next week, the Committee will review Bill 304, an Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act (protecting freedom).

Natural Resources

- The Committee met in camera to discuss a draft report on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada.

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Public Accounts

Michael Ferguson, the Auditor General of Canada, and Assistant Auditors General Jerome Berthelette and Wendy Loschiuk appeared before the Committee to present his 2012 Spring Report.

Public Safety and National Security

- Officials from Correctional Service of Canada appeared before the Committee to discuss Bill C-293, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (vexatious complainants).
- The Committee met in camera to discuss a draft report on its study of drugs and alcohol in prisons.

Status of Women

- The Committee continues its study on improving economic prospects for Canadian girls.
- Next week, the Committee will consider a draft report on its study of Abuse of Older Women. RCMP Commissioner Robert Paulson will appear before the Committee on the role and challenges of women employed by the RCMP.

Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

- The Committee continued its study on the closure of Aveos Fleet Performance Inc..

Veterans Affairs

- The Committee continued its review of the delivery of front-line health and wellbeing services for Canadian Veterans. RCMP officials appeared as witnesses.

Parliamentary Committee Activities—Senate

The **Senate Aboriginal Peoples Committee** continued its study of Additions to Reserves.

The **Senate Banking, Trade and Commerce Committee** continued its five-year review of the Proceeds of crime.

The **Senate Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources Committee** continued its study on the current state and future of Canada's energy sector.

The **Senate Social Affairs Committee met with** representatives from the Auditor General's Office (Neil Maxwell and Louise Dubé) and from Health Canada on its study of prescription pharmaceuticals in Canada.

The **Senate Transport and Communications Committee** continued its study on emerging issues related to the Canadian airline industry

The **Senate subcommittee on Veterans Affairs** continued its study of transition to civilian life.

Legislative Developments — House of Commons

First Reading (Private Members' Bills)

- Bill C-411, An Act to amend the Canada Labour Code (occupational disease registry) introduced by NDP MP Carol Hughes (Algoma-Manitowlin-Kapuskasing, ON)
- Bill C-412, An Act to amend the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act (poverty reduction), introduced by NDP MP Jinny Sims (Newton-North Delta, BC)
- Bill C-413, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (judicial discretion), introduced by NDP MP Joe Comartin (Windsor-Tecumseh, ON)
- Bill C-414, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (cruelty to animals), introduced by NDP MP Joe Comartin (Windsor-Tecumseh, ON)

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- Bill C-415, An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (appeals), introduced by NDP MP Don Davies (Vancouver Kingsway, BC)
- Bill C-416, An Act to proclaim Edison Arantes do Nascimento an honorary citizen of Canada, introduced by NDP MP Peter Stoffer (Sackville-Eastern Shore, NS).
- Bill C-417, An Act to amend the Fish Inspection Act and the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act (importation and labelling of shark, introduced by Green Party Leader Elizabeth May (Saanich-Gulf Islands, BC).

Second Reading

- Bill C-15, Strengthening Military Justice in the Defence of Canada Act
- Bill C-279, Canadian Human Rights Act and the Criminal Code (gender identity and gender expression)
- Bill C-326, An Act to amend the Canada Pension Plan and the Old Age Security Act (biweekly payment of benefits),

Referred to Committee

- Bill S-4, Safer Railways Act, (Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities)

Report Stage

- Bill C-310, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (trafficking in persons)
- Bill C-313, An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (non-corrective cosmetic contact lenses),

Legislative Developments — Senate

Second Reading

- Bill S-9, Nuclear Terrorism Act
- Bill S-205, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (carbon offset tax credit)
- Bill S-207, An Act to amend the Interpretation Act (non-derogation of aboriginal and treaty rights)
- Bill S-209, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (prize fights)
- Bill S-1003, An Act to authorize Industrial Alliance Pacific Insurance and Financial Services Inc.

Third Reading

- Bill S-6, First Nations Elections Act

Royal Assent

- Bill C-19, Ending the Long-gun Registry Act

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Frappier, Julie

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: April 10, 2012 10:59 AM
To: Ferguson, Michael
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Dupuis, Veronique; Duhamel, Liette
Subject: AG references - Question of privilege - F-35s - Thursday April 5, 2012

Mike, FYI, Bob Rae has submitted a question of privilege to the Speaker of the House arguing that Parliament has been misled regarding the F-35s.

A small excerpt of the debate is below.

Marie-Josée

41st PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

EDITED HANSARD

Thursday, April 5, 2012

Oral Questions

Privilege

National Defence

Hon. Bob Rae (Toronto Centre, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday of this week, April 3, 2012, you had the honour of tabling in this House the 2012 report of the **Auditor General**.

(...)

If in fact it is true that the government accepts the conclusions of the **Auditor general's** report, the Government of Canada is admitting that for a period of 21 months it misled the Parliament of Canada. By way of debate, the government is saying, "Well, it's okay because there are no consequences, there are no financial consequences to this, so it doesn't matter". One minister of the crown even got up to say, "Don't ask us questions about this. Only ask us questions about something which really matters, like the economy."

There is nothing more fundamental to this House than the fact that this House be told the truth by its government.

Something else surfaced in the media today.

The **Auditor general** made a presentation to a parliamentary committee today, but he also said things to the media outside the House. He surprised us all by telling the media that members of the executive council were aware of the facts and of the costs related to the contract even as they attacked opposition members and an officer of Parliament, the Parliamentary Budget Officer. This means that for a long time, the members of the executive council knew that what they were saying in the House of Commons was not true.

Frankly, I cannot imagine a harsher, clearer criticism of the government. The government cannot say that, while it accepts the conclusions in the report, they do not really matter. If it accepts the conclusions in the **Auditor general's** report, it must accept the facts that are clearly stated within it: the government did not tell the truth to members of the House of Commons. On the contrary, it repeatedly attacked members and officers of the House even though it knew the truth.

That is why I believe that there is clearly a matter of privilege here.

It is not a matter of privilege for one member of this House alone. This has to do with the fundamental obligation of a government to tell the truth, to tell the truth to Parliament.

The **Auditor general** has concluded that, in fact, Parliament was misled. If the government accepts that conclusion, I would argue, Mr. Speaker, that you have no alternative but to find that there is a question of privilege.

(...)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Bruce Stanton):

(...) I think there is more than enough here for us to consider in the days ahead. We will take the matter under advisement and get back to the House in due course.

Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

Director, Parliamentary Liaison | Directrice, Liaison avec le Parlement

Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

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Page 27

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From: Dupuis, Veronique
Sent: April 4, 2012 9:49 AM
To: Ferguson, Michael; Berthelette, Jerome; Reed, John; Ku, Joyce
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Duhamel, Liette
Subject: AG references - HoC - the Budget and F-35s - 3 April 2012

41st PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

EDITED HANSARD

Tuesday, April 3, 2012

Government Orders

The Budget

(...)

Mr. Peter Julian (Burnaby—New Westminster, NDP): (...) This is a government that has absolutely no idea how much the F-35s are going to cost. The Parliamentary Budget Officer, fortunately for us, for Canadian taxpayers' sake, did a study and showed it was going to cost \$30 billion, including the maintenance contracts. However, that was before all of these additional problems came up with the F-35s, which have been identified by the **Auditor General** and others. (...)

The **Auditor General of Canada** is a position that has so much respect across the country. The **Auditor General** is the person who actually identifies when there is misspending and protects the taxpayers' interest, protects Canadians' interest. To do that, the **Auditor General** needs the resources to undertake the audits that auditors do. (...) The **Auditor General** does that for the nation. The NDP has always said that the **Auditor General** needs more resources to audit effectively more of the expenses of government. If the government had been listening to the **Auditor General**, it never would have gotten into the F-35 fiasco in the first place. It would not have blown tens of billions of dollars on the F-35s. (...) If the government had done that careful evaluation with the **Auditor General**, it never would have gotten into this misguided prisons agenda. The **Auditor General** would have said, "Hold on, you do not have the budget. You do not know how much it is going to cost. You have to be a little more rigorous in your cost accounting on the prisons. You cannot just throw legislation before the House of Commons and do it in such an irresponsible way".

If the Conservatives had done that with the **Auditor General**, they would not have seen what they have seen over the last few months, which has been a steady erosion in public confidence in the government's ability to handle money. (...)

What has the government done with respect to the **Auditor General of Canada**? If what the government really intends to do is to try to save some money, but if it is being spent effectively, one would assume we would see an increase in the budget for the **Auditor General of Canada**. That just makes common sense. (...)

Here is the problem. The Conservatives are so poor at managing money. We have seen that with the F-35s and with the prisons agenda. They are so appallingly bad at managing taxpayers' money that they have done exactly the opposite. In 2014-15, they are slashing \$6.7 million out of the **Auditor General of Canada**, and we say shame on them. Canadian families deserve better. They deserve the protection of the **Auditor General of Canada**. The **Auditor General of Canada** deserves an increase in funding.

That means the **Auditor General** will be able to monitor fewer departments. The **Auditor General** will be cut back in a dozen cases and will not be able to oversee the Conservative government's wild expenditures. The government is wild in its excess. We have seen this with the F-35s: \$30 billion or \$40 billion, "Hey, it is all okay. It is our pet project. We do not want to control expenditures". For the Conservatives to cut back on the **Auditor General of Canada** shows complete disrespect for Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, through you, I would like to say to Canadians to send tweets, post on Facebook or write emails telling their Conservative MPs what they think of their decision to slash the **Auditor General of Canada**, to slash that protection that belongs to all of us to make sure these incredibly irresponsible spending decisions of the Conservatives are actually reined in. If folks want to write in, we would love to hear from them. (...)

These are institutions that protect the public interest. The **Auditor General of Canada**, the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada will all be slashed and burned because the government does not like having impartial, independent protectors of the public interest standing up for Canadians. (...)

Oral Questions

La défense nationale

M. Thomas Mulcair (chef de l'opposition, NPD):

Monsieur le Président, la vérité, c'est qu'ils retirent 31 milliards de dollars sans consultation.

Parmi les choix budgétaires qui n'ont aucun bon sens, parlons des F-35. En mars, le directeur parlementaire du budget estimait le coût des F-35 à 30 milliards de dollars. Les conservateurs ont tout fait pour discréditer Kevin Page, affirmant qu'ils en coûteraient la moitié. Pourtant, le **vérificateur général** prouve aujourd'hui que le gouvernement savait que les coûts des F-35 allaient être encore plus élevés. Il le savait.

Pourquoi les conservateurs ont-ils délibérément donné de l'information erronée au Parlement et aux Canadiens?

Le très hon. Stephen Harper (premier ministre, PCC):

Monsieur le Président, je n'accepte pas les conclusions du chef de l'opposition. Le **vérificateur général** est arrivé à certaines conclusions et nous avons accepté ses recommandations. Il a identifié le besoin d'une plus grande supervision des coûts et le gouvernement va accepter ses recommandations.

Mr. Thomas Mulcair (Leader of the Opposition, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, this is a question of ethics. The **Auditor General** has concluded that the Conservatives knew their figures were misleading but they gave them to Parliament anyway. The **Auditor General's** report on the F-35 is a litany of poor public administration, bad decision-making and lack of accountability by Conservative ministers.

The key question for the Prime Minister is how could he allow Parliament to be intentionally misled on the F-35s? Either he knew, and it is unconscionable, or he did not know and it is incompetence. Which is it?

Right Hon. Stephen Harper (Prime Minister, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, that is a miscategorization of what the **Auditor General** actually said.

I remind the leader of the opposition that the government has not yet purchased this airplane. It has not yet signed a contract.

The **Auditor General** has identified a need for greater independence and supervision over some of the activities of the Department of National Defence in this regard. The government will put that supervision in place before we proceed.

Mme Christine Moore (Abitibi—Témiscamingue, NPD):

Monsieur le Président, si on accepte les recommandations, qui va être tenu responsable de ce fiasco?

En 2006, les conservateurs se sont engagés à acheter les F-35 avec l'argent des Canadiens sans garantie que les entreprises d'ici en profiteraient. Selon le **vérificateur général**, les ministres conservateurs ont aussi fourni des informations erronées sur les retombées régionales. Les conservateurs ont tenu des conférences de presse pour annoncer des retombées régionales qui n'existaient pas.

Comment les conservateurs peuvent-ils justifier d'avoir fourni de l'information trompeuse sur les F-35?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, we accept the conclusions of the **Auditor General** and we will implement his recommendations.

The Government of Canada has taken action today to ensure that due diligence, oversight and transparency are firmly embedded in the process to replace Canada's aging fighter jets. That is why we have frozen funding for the acquisition, and are establishing a separate F-35 secretariat outside of National Defence to lead this project moving forward.

Mme Christine Moore (Abitibi—Témiscamingue, NPD):

Monsieur le Président, ce que les conservateurs devraient faire, c'est s'excuser d'avoir trompé les Canadiens. Travaux publics est censé superviser les grands projets d'acquisition, et en 2009, il a eu l'occasion de sonner l'alarme. Mais selon le **vérificateur général**, ce ministère a échoué à faire preuve de diligence.

Qui était alors le ministre des Travaux publics? Qui est resté les bras croisés? Le député de Mégantic—L'Érable, évidemment. Après avoir été informé de ce fiasco en devenir, pourquoi le ministre des Travaux publics de l'époque n'a-t-il rien fait pour éviter le désastre?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, we have not signed a contract to purchase any aircraft. We have frozen the funding in anticipation of refining the cost estimates before a decision is made for any acquisition. A budget, as we have said, has been allocated, and we will stay within that budget.

Hon. Ralph Goodale (Wascana, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, according to the **Auditor General**, the F-35 affair is just riddled with lies.

The government cannot dodge responsibility. It is not credible and simply not true for Conservatives to say that they did not know until today. They were told by the Liberal opposition 21 months ago. They were told by the Parliamentary Budget Officer.

The government's own internal figures were similar to the PBO's, but denied that and is misleading Parliament. Even worse, it has not fixed the problem. Why is there still no open competitive bidding?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the premise that the report is riddled with lies.

Let me quote:

The Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Program is unique. In this context, National Defence, as the lead department, exercised due diligence in managing Canada's participation in the Program. National Defence managed industrial participation well (together with Industry Canada), identified and communicated risks and mitigation strategies related to JSF Program participation....

I am surprised that the member opposite would categorize those statements as lies.

Hon. Ralph Goodale (Wascana, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, if he reads carefully, those words apply to the period before 2006.

With their culture of deceit laid bare, Conservatives throw some scapegoat under the bus: Linda Keen, Richard Colvin, and Munir Sheikh. On election fraud, it is Michael Sona. Now on the F-35s, it is whole department of defence. However, the government cannot victimize bureaucrats and the military. It cannot blame child pornographers and Taliban terrorists.

This is their process from the top down. It is the Prime Minister's job to know the truth and to tell the truth, and he failed.

Why is there still no competition?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, I am really surprised that we would be lumping in all kinds of issues with respect to the **Auditor General's** report, which we accept.

The report is clear, and we have a strategy to move forward. I invite the member opposite to have a good read and to understand our commitment to dealing with this issue.

The **Auditor General** has spoken, we have listened and we are moving forward.

M. Marc Garneau (Westmount—Ville-Marie, Lib.):

Monsieur le Président, ce matin, le **vérificateur général** nous raconte que la gestion du programme des F-35 est un fiasco monumental. Ce gouvernement a fait preuve d'incompétence et d'aveuglement total pendant six ans, et déjà, il est en train d'essayer de blâmer les fonctionnaires et les militaires pour son incompétence. Faire semblant qu'on n'était pas au courant n'est pas acceptable. C'est le temps de larguer un ministre.

Comment le premier ministre ne peut-il pas exiger la démission du ministre de la Défense nationale, un homme qui est plus qu'incompétent?

Hon. Rona Ambrose (Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, this morning the **Auditor General** was very clear—

The Speaker:

The hon. Minister of Public Works has the floor.

Hon. Rona Ambrose:

Mr. Speaker, this morning the **Auditor General** was very clear. He said that the Department of National Defence needed to refine its cost estimates and needed to be more transparent.

Our government's response is also very clear: We will ensure that the Department of National Defence does refine its cost estimates. In addition, we will ensure that we move this project into a secretariat that will manage the process of replacing the CF-18s, and we will immediately freeze the funding for the F-35s.

Mr. Matthew Kellway (Beaches—East York, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, a different minister, the same spin.

The **Auditor General** has been very clear. Conservatives used two different estimates for F-35 maintenance costs, one for internal decision-making and another lower figure for the public.

While the Associate Minister of National Defence has, day after day, dutifully repeated talking points, he was hiding a secret estimate that was \$10 billion higher. I have two simple questions for the Associate Minister of National Defence.

Why did he mislead Canadians? Will he apologize?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, I certainly do not accept the premise.

We do in fact accept the conclusions of the **Auditor General**, and we will in fact implement his recommendations.

The Government of Canada is taking action today to ensure that due diligence, oversight and transparency are firmly embedded in the program to replace the aging fighter jets. That is why we have frozen funding for the acquisition and are establishing a separate F-35 secretariat, outside of national defence, to lead this program forward.

Mr. Matthew Kellway (Beaches—East York, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, the Conservatives are having trouble with the facts, still, so let me help them.

In February of 2010, the Conservatives were told by the U.S. government that the F-35 “would cost more and take longer to finish than planned”, yet the Conservatives intentionally hid the facts from Canadians.

The Minister of National Defence even did his best to demonize the Parliamentary Budget Officer, despite knowing full well that the PBO was correct. Why did the Minister of National Defence attack the PBO and mislead Parliament?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated, we accept the recommendations and findings of the **Auditor General**. We have a seven-point plan to move forward to address these issues. In that regard, we are addressing these issues in earnest and will continue to move forward.

Mr. Malcolm Allen (Welland, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, today the **Auditor General** once again showed how the Conservatives are mismanaging the public purse. They have misled Parliament on the F-35's costs, mishandled aviation safety, and failed to safely manage the border.

The Conservative government has simply not gotten the job done. Its solution is to gut public services further and to let us hope for the best.

Given this scathing report from the **Auditor General**, why will the Conservatives not acknowledge what they did wrong and tell Canadians the truth?

Hon. Rona Ambrose (Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, the **Auditor General** was clear this morning in his report. His one recommendation was that the Department of National Defence continue to refine its cost estimates for the F-35 and that it be more transparent.

We accept that, and we will not purchase any new aircraft until the Department of National Defence has met that recommendation.

In addition to that, we will immediately freeze the funding allocated for the F-35 and ensure that a secretariat is put in place to manage the process for this procurement to replace the CF-18.

Mme Lysane Blanchette-Lamothe (Pierrefonds—Dollard, NPD):

Monsieur le Président, accepter des recommandations, ce n'est pas assez. On dirait que, au lieu de prévenir des problèmes de mauvaise gestion, le gouvernement attend qu'on le prenne la main dans le sac pour s'excuser.

Les conservateurs ont dilapidé des fonds publics dans des projets plus que douteux pour le sommet du G8, et on voit maintenant l'histoire se répéter avec les F-35. Qu'il s'agisse des inspections de nos importations aux frontières ou de la surveillance de l'aviation civile, les problèmes de gestion continuent de s'accumuler.

Avec une gestion aussi déficiente, comment les Canadiens peuvent-ils avoir confiance en ce gouvernement?

Hon. Rona Ambrose (Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, as I said, the **Auditor General's** report indicated in one recommendation that the Department of National Defence needs to refine its cost estimates. That is important recommendation for the member to recognize because the funding has not yet been spent. The department needs to refine its cost estimates for this project. We accept that recommendation.

Furthermore, we have frozen the funds associated with this to ensure full respect for taxpayers.

* * *

National Defence

Hon. John McKay (Scarborough—Guildwood, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, the **Auditor General** made it abundantly clear that the F-35 program started to crash when the Conservatives took office in 2006. The Department of Public Works did not even realize that the Minister of National Defence had initiated a sole-source procurement program four years earlier. However, nothing has changed. They still call the process the F-35 secretariat, with all the same impugned players, plus the minister of gazebos from Muskoka.

What is needed is an open process to get the right plane at the right price, not an F-35 secretariat.

Hon. Rona Ambrose (Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, the **Auditor General** was very clear in his recommendation. His one recommendation is that the Department of National Defence needs to refine its cost estimates. We also believe that it needs to be more transparent.

Our government's response is also clear. We will not purchase new aircraft until that recommendation is met, and we are going further. We have a multi-point plan to address this, including freezing all of the funding allocated for the F-35 until conditions are met. To ensure further transparency, the secretariat will also have to table in Parliament the cost estimates.

Hon. John McKay (Scarborough—Guildwood, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, it appears that the only people asking questions are the opposition members. Clearly, it is not the ministers themselves.

When the PBO tabled the F-35 cost estimates in 2011, he was ridiculed by the Prime Minister, the Minister of National Defence and the Conservative caucus. In 2010, though, the U.S. government had already told the government that the F-35s would "cost more and take longer to finish than planned". The PBO was right and the Prime Minister was wrong.

Did the minister know that he was misleading Parliament, or is he merely incompetent?

Hon. Rona Ambrose (Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, to address the **Auditor General's** recommendation, we have immediately frozen the funding allocated to the F-35. We have also said we will not purchase new aircraft until this recommendation is met.

Furthermore, to ensure proper oversight and prior to any project approval moving forward, Treasury Board will first commission an independent review of the Department of National Defence's acquisition and sustainment project assumptions and the potential costs for the F-35. All of this will be made public and shared with Parliament.

L'hon. Dominic LeBlanc (Beauséjour, Lib.):

Monsieur le Président, le **vérificateur général** vient d'annoncer l'incompétence et la malhonnêteté des conservateurs dans l'achat des F-35.

Alors que des milliards de dollars des contribuables sont en jeu, les conservateurs ont préféré ignorer nos avertissements, et ils n'ont jamais pris la peine de vérifier s'il y avait des problèmes. Maintenant, nos forces aériennes risquent de payer le prix de l'incompétence des conservateurs.

Pourquoi ont-ils été malhonnêtes avec les Canadiens, et pourquoi n'ont-ils pas pris leurs responsabilités pour s'assurer de l'intégrité du processus?

Hon. Rona Ambrose (Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, the **Auditor General** made one recommendation, and that is for the Department of National Defence to refine its cost estimates.

However, our response goes much further than that to address this issue. We have frozen funding for the F-35 for this project. We have also established a secretariat to manage the process of replacing the CF-18s outside of the Department of National Defence. To ensure oversight, we will have a deputy ministers committee managing this process. All cost estimates will be tabled in Parliament and made public.

* * *

Government Orders

[The Budget]

(...)

Hon. John McCallum (Markham—Unionville, Lib.): (...) We do need to replace the fighter jets. I used to be defence minister. As the **Auditor General** made clear today, the problems with the F-35 only began in 2006 when a government of a certain other party came to power. As was very clear from the **Auditor General** today, the Conservatives totally messed up on the F-35, there is no other way to put it. There is a huge amount of work to do to set things straight.

(...)

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Debates of the Senate (Hansard)

**1st Session, 41st Parliament,
Volume 148, Issue 67**

Tuesday, April 3, 2012

The Honourable Pierre Claude Nolin, Acting Speaker

QUESTION PERIOD

National Defence

F-35 Aircraft Purchase

Hon. Wilfred P. Moore: Honourable senators, we have really reached an all-time low with this government's actions with the F-35 fighter jet program. The **Auditor General** today stated:

In May 2008, through the *Canada First Defence Strategy*, the federal government announced its intent to replace the CF-18 fleet with 65 "next generation" fighter aircraft. Then, in July 2010, the government announced its decision to buy the F-35 Lightning II, without following a competitive process, as the CF-18 replacement.

Now, the **Auditor General** has condemned DND for not providing key information in a timely manner and for not providing cost information to parliamentarians. The AG also implicates Public Works and Government Services for just going along with DND without key documentation and approvals.

The Prime Minister himself misled Canadians during an election campaign — I spoke about this last week — regarding the existence of a contract and his statement that Canada was shielded from rising costs in the F-35 program.

At best, this is incompetence at every level and step since 2008 in this process. At worst, it is a conscious decision by this government to push this purchase no matter what the cost or abuses to the process.

Can the Leader of the Government in the Senate explain so many lapses in judgment from the Prime Minister to the Minister of Defence to the officers responsible for procurement to the Minister of Public Works and Government Services? Honourable senators, this is everyone we know of so far.

Hon. Marjory LeBreton (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, first of all, I would like to thank the new **Auditor General** for his work in this area. The government accepts the conclusions of the **Auditor General** and will implement his recommendations.

The government is taking immediate action to ensure that due diligence, oversight and transparency are firmly embedded in the process to replace the aging fighter aircraft fleet, and, as a result, the government has frozen funding and is establishing a separate F-35 secretariat outside of National Defence to lead this project forward.

Senator Moore: Now the government's response to the **Auditor General's** damning report of the F-35 purchase is to create another layer of bureaucracy, which the leader has mentioned, this time in the Department of Public Works, which will monitor and manage the procurement process.

In light of this development, the creation of a secretariat to manage the procurement process, combined with the just days' old announcement of cuts to all departments, when will the government do the fiscally responsible thing and get rid of the position of minister responsible for procurement?

Senator LeBreton: I think that is a very provocative statement the honourable senator has just made. We have examples of secretariats within the Department of Public Works in the past doing excellent work. The government, as I just indicated, will immediately establish a new F-35 secretariat within the Department of Public Works and Government Services. The secretariat will play the leading coordinating role as the government moves forward to replace the CF-18 fleet. A committee of deputy ministers will be established to provide oversight of the F-35 secretariat, and I believe this is a prudent and proper course to follow. We have outstanding public servants, and we can certainly have every confidence in the work of this secretariat.

Senator Moore: Just feeling that one has to create a secretariat after all the other ministries, bureaucrats and officials have been involved in this process is quite an indictment, I would say, of the performance of the government and the ministries.

The government has also decided to freeze the acquisition costs at \$9 billion for this fleet of aircraft. That will obviously limit the number of aircraft that DND can purchase. If, as the best estimates state, the ballooning cost per unit is nearing \$200 million, we might be able to afford only 45 of these airplanes.

How can the government square this reduced number with the declaration by DND that 65 aircraft was the absolute least number that the Canadian Forces could purchase in order to fulfill its NORAD and NATO requirements?

(1430)

Why was this government so insistent on the number of 65 for the past four years when it is obvious now that the number was absolutely unachievable in the face of spiraling costs and in the face of Chinese cybertheft? I would like some answers, provocative or not.

Senator LeBreton: Let us let the secretariat do its work. The government, as I indicated earlier, has frozen the funds.

At the end of the day, honourable senators, Canada will not sign a contract to purchase new aircraft until all of the steps are completed and developmental work is sufficiently advanced.

Canada remains committed to ensuring that the Royal Canadian Air Force has the aircraft it needs to do the jobs we ask of them. Our primary responsibility is to ensure that the men and women of the Royal Canadian Air Force, and our armed services generally, have the best available equipment. By going through this process, I believe it is a prudent and responsible action on the part of the government.

Again, I would like to personally and on behalf of the government thank the new **Auditor General**, Michael Ferguson, for his report. We fully accept his recommendations.

Hon. Jane Cordy: Honourable senators, it is quite interesting that the government seems to be surprised and has waited until the **Auditor General** has made his report before taking any action.

The Liberal caucus in the Senate and the House of Commons has been raising this issue for the past two years. In fact, on February 1 of this year, Senator Moore asked a question in this house and has asked a number of them on the F-35s. The leader's answer was that the government believes the F-35 is an aircraft that meets the needs of Canada and our commitments to NATO. Her responses to most of those questions indicated how firmly she believed that the F-35s were going to be the answer.

Why was the government not asking questions of our own departments, such as the Department of National Defence?

Senator LeBreton: Honourable senators, the fact of the matter is that if the government were to respond to every newspaper article, all the various speculations and the discussions in the Liberal caucus, we would not get anything done.

The **Auditor General** is the person best equipped to go in and look at the various records of the departments. Of course, the **Auditor General** has done this. He has

provided the government with information and conclusions as to the process that was followed here. The government fully accepts the work and recommendations of the **Auditor General** and, as I have already indicated, will freeze the funds and allow the secretariat to do its work.

At the end of the day, the goal of the government is to provide our hard-working, dedicated members of the Royal Canadian Air Force with the very best equipment available, also keeping in mind our NATO commitments.

Senator Cordy: On March 14 of this year, in response to another question by Senator Moore, Senator LeBreton said:

Honourable senators, the media reports that we are abandoning the F-35 program are erroneous.

Two weeks later, they are no longer erroneous. The **Auditor General** has said the items that we have heard questions about in the House of Commons and certainly from Senator Moore, Senator Dallaire and Senator Cowan in the Senate Chamber have proven to be correct. This government has ignored them. I would think a responsible government would try to find the answers to these questions.

Since the honourable senator did not answer, why was the government not asking questions of the Department of National Defence and the Department of Public Works to get to the bottom of this matter? Obviously, the **Auditor General** asked questions and got answers. The answers are that this should not have gone as far as it did and that it was mismanaged.

I ask again, why did the government not ask questions of the Department of Public Works and the Department of National Defence?

Senator LeBreton: First, I did not see anywhere in the **Auditor General's** report or in any of the responses from the government that we were abandoning the F-35 program. As a matter of fact, the government has stated that Industry Canada, through the F-35 secretariat, will continue identifying opportunities for Canadian industry to participate in the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Global Supply Chain, as well as other potential benefits for Canada in sustainment, testing and training, and will provide updates to Parliament. That is a very important point to make: There is a commitment to make updates to Parliament, in this case explaining the benefits.

Honourable senators, the **Auditor General** took a good, hard look at this. When one reads the **Auditor General's** report, it does state that the work done between the Department of National Defence and industry was a proper process, but we have now put a freeze on the program. I think that is the responsible thing to do. That is certainly what Senator Cordy has been demanding that we do.

At the end of the day, Canada will not sign a contract to purchase new aircraft until all the steps the government has laid out today are completed and developmental work is sufficiently advanced.

As I pointed out, all of the steps taken will ensure that the loyal, dedicated members of the Royal Canadian Air Force have the best possible equipment to go forward and do the job we ask of them.

Hon. James S. Cowan (Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, the question is, why did it take the **Auditor General's** report to do what ordinary Canadians and experts — Allan Williams as an example. I saw him being interviewed on CBC television this morning, and he said the government had it wrong from the very beginning.

The **Auditor General** caught the government out in a lie. Why did it take until that stage before the government acted and did what those of us on this side, in the other place and experts from across the country and elsewhere, beyond the borders of our country, have been saying that the government should have been doing for years? Why did the government wait to do it now?

Senator LeBreton: First, it is really quite improper to say that the **Auditor General** caught the government out in a lie. That is not the case and the honourable senator knows it.

The fact of the matter is that Mr. Williams has always been in the media as a person who was not supportive of this program. Other people in the media were supportive of the program. For every person one can cite who did not support the program, I can cite a number of people who did.

There is only one person in this country who can go in and look at these programs, department to department and inter-department, and it is the **Auditor General**. The **Auditor General** has now done this, and he has done a good and thorough job. The government thanks him and accepts his recommendations to put a freeze on the program.

The secretariat that is being established under the Department of Public Works will be made up of experienced deputy ministers. We saw an example in the past of how these deputy ministers work in the shipbuilding area. I have every confidence that this secretariat will ensure that all the proper steps are followed and that at the end of the day we will have an aircraft deserving of our good men and women in the Armed Forces.

Senator Cowan: Surely the leader is not pretending that the government could not have gotten this information, coordinated it and come up with this report without having the **Auditor General** come in. Surely the government has the capacity to draw information from various departments in government and come to the same conclusion that the **Auditor General** did.

Speaking of misleading Canadians and Parliament, let me read what the Prime Minister said on April 8, 2011, which as I recall happened to be in the middle of an election campaign:

You have to understand that in terms of the F-35 costs, we've been very detailed with those to the Canadian public. A lot of the developmental costs you're reading in the United States, the contract we've signed —

— this is the Prime Minister speaking —

— shelters us from any increase in those kinds of costs. We're very confident of our cost estimates and we have built in some latitude, some contingency in any case. So we are very confident we are within those measures.

(1440)

What contract was he referring to?

Senator LeBreton: If the honourable senator would check with the leader of the third party in the other place, that was exactly the question he put to the Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister responded to that question. I would be happy to provide the honourable senator with a copy of the Prime Minister's response. The Prime Minister responded to the agreement of all nations in terms of the development of the F-35, which, of course, started 15 years ago under the previous Liberal government.

Senator Cowan: That development contract was entered into by the then Government of Canada, and I think \$100 million was contributed toward the developmental costs. By the time that government took over in the mid-1990s, that contract had already generated some \$400 million worth of contracts for defence contractors in Canada. It was a very good investment of \$100 million in the early 2000s and there was absolutely no commitment at that time by the then government that this country would purchase the F-35s. Does the minister not agree that that is correct?

Senator LeBreton: I absolutely do not agree that that is correct. Senator Cowan is very clever, but he will have to get up early in the morning to put words in my mouth.

The honourable senator talks about the various departments, but it takes a person like the **Auditor General** to actually go into the separate departments and put the pieces together. That is role of the **Auditor General**.

The **Auditor General** has been working on this for some time. He has made recommendations and the government has accepted them. We have frozen the funding. We are establishing a secretariat to work through best practices here. I think that is what the Canadian public would want us to do, and that is what we are doing. At the end of the day, our goal is to have a process that produces the best aircraft available for our men and women of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Hon. David P. Smith: I would like to ask the government leader if she believes — and I emphasize the word "believes" — the **Auditor General** had a valid point. I also emphasize the word "valid." If so, how would she characterize the valid point that he had?

Senator LeBreton: I think I made it clear that the government thinks the **Auditor General** had a valid point. We agree with his recommendations and have taken measures to address them.

Hon. Robert W. Peterson: The government had a contract and was protected with an upside fee. Can the leader tell us what the break free will be if the government does not proceed with this contract?

Senator LeBreton: Let us not put the cart before the horse. Let us accept the recommendations of the **Auditor General**, which we have done. I applaud the new **Auditor General** for his report. The government accepts his recommendations. The government has taken action to freeze the funds and establish a secretariat. The government has committed to make regular reports to Parliament on this. Let us allow the secretariat to do its job before we start answering hypothetical questions of "what if?" and "why not?"

Véronique Dupuis, M.Sc.

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Pages 43 to / à 44
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Pages 45 to / à 46
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: April 4, 2012 4:12 PM
To: LIST-Internet
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Desjardins, Ghislain; O'Shaughnessy, Shailagh; Bissonnette, Céline
Subject: Notice to Speaker
Attachments: PROXI-#728560-v1-2012 05 CESD Report - Letter to Speaker - HOC.DOC; PROXI-#728191-v2-2012 05 CESD Report - Notice to Speaker Attachment.DOC

Good afternoon,

The notice to the Speaker has been delivered and can be posted on our Web site.

Thanks

Liette

4 April 2012

The Honourable Andrew Scheer, M.P.
Speaker of the House of Commons
House of Commons
Centre Block, Room 224-N
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am writing to advise you that on 8 May 2012—34 days from the date of this notice—I am planning to make available to you my Spring 2012 Report to the House of Commons, for tabling in the House, in accordance with section 10.1 of the *Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act*. The subject matter of the Report is outlined in the attachment to this letter.

I will also be including an addendum that contains copies of environmental petitions received under the *Auditor General Act* between 1 July 2011 and 31 December 2011. The environmental petitions process allows Canadians to formally present their concerns about environmental issues to federal ministers and obtain a response.

I would be pleased to hear from you should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Vaughan

Encl.

cc: Members of Parliament
Ms. Audrey O'Brien

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Le 4 avril 2012

L'honorable Andrew Scheer, député
Président de la Chambre des communes
Chambre des communes
Édifice du Centre, pièce 224-N
Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0A6

Monsieur le Président,

Je vous écris pour vous informer que le 8 mai 2012—soit 34 jours après le présent préavis—je compte vous présenter mon Rapport du printemps 2012 à la Chambre des Communes, pour dépôt en Chambre, conformément aux dispositions du paragraphe 10.1 de la *Loi de mise en oeuvre du Protocole de Kyoto*. Vous trouverez dans une annexe à la présente les sujets traités dans le Rapport.

En outre, j'inclus un addenda renfermant des copies des pétitions en matière d'environnement que nous avons reçues en vertu de la *Loi sur le vérificateur général* entre le 1^{er} juillet 2011 et le 31 décembre 2011. Le processus de pétitions en matière d'environnement permet à la population canadienne de porter à l'attention des ministres fédéraux, par voie officielle, leurs préoccupations et leurs questions concernant l'environnement et d'obtenir une réponse dans les meilleurs délais.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Le commissaire à l'environnement et au développement durable,

Scott Vaughan

P.j.

c.c. Députés
Madame Audrey O'Brien

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Report of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development to the House of Commons—Spring 2012

Chapter 1, *Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act*, is the third and final report that the Commissioner is required to present to Parliament under the mandate of the Act, which required the Commissioner to report every two years up to and including 2012. The report looks at the government's progress in implementing its climate change plans and whether Canada is on track to meet its Kyoto Protocol obligations.

Chapter 2, Meeting Canada's 2020 Climate Change Commitments, examines whether Environment Canada has established an implementation plan designed to meet the 2020 national greenhouse gas emission reduction target that was set internationally in the 2009 Copenhagen Accord. The target was also communicated in the 2010 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy.

Chapter 3, Federal Contaminated Sites and Their Impacts, examines how the federal government manages and reports actions taken to address the contaminated sites in its inventory and the financial impact of environmental damage arising from them.

The Commissioner's Report will also include the chapter, **Message from the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development**.

Rapport du commissaire à l'environnement et au développement durable à la Chambre des communes — Printemps 2012

Le **chapitre 1, La Loi de mise en œuvre du Protocole de Kyoto**, est le troisième et dernier rapport préparé par le commissaire en vertu de son mandat conféré par la *Loi*, soit de présenter un rapport au Parlement tous les deux ans jusqu'en 2012, inclusivement. Le rapport rend compte des progrès réalisés par le gouvernement pour mettre en œuvre les plans sur les changements climatiques et vérifie si le Canada est en voie de remplir ses obligations au titre du Protocole de Kyoto.

Le **chapitre 2, Honorer les engagements 2020 du Canada en matière de changement climatique**, examine dans quelle mesure Environnement Canada a établi un plan d'action visant à lui permettre d'atteindre la cible internationale fixée pour 2020 en vertu de l'Accord de Copenhague de 2009 quant à la réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre. Cette cible était aussi annoncée dans la Stratégie fédérale de développement durable de 2010.

Le **chapitre 3, Les sites contaminés fédéraux et leurs impacts**, examine comment le gouvernement fédéral gère les interventions touchant les sites contaminés inscrits dans son inventaire et comment il rend compte de celles-ci, ainsi que les incidences financières des dommages à l'environnement causés par ces sites.

Le rapport du commissaire contiendra aussi un avant-propos intitulé **Message du commissaire à l'environnement et au développement durable**.

Frappier, Julie

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: April 3, 2012 3:49 PM
To: Duhamel, Liette; LIST-DX-TO-AG
Cc: Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Parliamentary summary - Week of Mar 26-30 / Sommaire parlementaire - semaine du 26 au 30 mars
Attachments: PROXI #728044-v1-Weekly parliamentary summary - Mar 26-30 2012.DOCX

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

Liette Duhamel

Parliamentary Liaison Coordinator | Coordonnatrice, Liaison avec le Parlement

Parliamentary Liaison | Liaison avec le Parlement

Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

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Facsimile | Télécopieur 613-957-0474

Teletypewriter | Téléimprimeur 613-954-8042

Reports from Committees

- The Standing Committee on Health presented its Seventh Report, Bill C-300, An Act respecting a Federal Framework for Suicide Prevention (Federal Framework for Suicide Prevention Act), without amendments.
- The Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities presented its Fourth Report, A Framework for Success: Practical Recommendations to Further Shorten the Foreign Qualification Recognition Process.
- The Standing Committee on International Trade presented its Third Report, The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service.
- The Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights presented its Sixth Report, Bill C-310, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (trafficking in persons), with amendments.
- The Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights presented its Seventh Report, State of organized crime.
- The Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights presented its Eighth Report, Main Estimates 2012-13: Votes 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 50 under JUSTICE.
- The Standing Committee on Natural Resources presented its Second Report, Main Estimates 2012-13: Votes 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 under NATURAL RESOURCES.
- The Standing Committee on Public Accounts presented its Fourth Report, Chapter 2, G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund, of the Spring 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada.
- The Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs presented its Seventeenth Report, Changes to Membership of Standing and Standing Joint Committees. The report was concurred in.
- The Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs presented its Fourth Report, Main Estimates 2012-2013: Votes 1, 5 and 10 under VETERANS AFFAIRS.
- The Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs presented its Tenth Report, Bill C-19, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act, without amendment.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

- Report of the Canadian Polar Commission, together with the Auditor General's Report, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canadian Polar Commission Act, S.C. 1991, c. 6, sbs. 21(2).
- Report on the Legislative Review of the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act, pursuant to the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act, S.C. 2005, c. 9, s. 146.
- Response of the government, pursuant to Standing Order 109, to the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates, "Effectiveness of the Office of Small and Medium Enterprises and the Canadian Innovation Commercialization Program" (Sessional Paper No. 8510-411-15)
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 and of the Capital Budget for 2012 of the Canada Development Investment Corporation, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- The report on sponsored travel by Members of the House of Commons for the year 2011, pursuant to section 15(3) of the Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons
- The report of the Canadian Human Rights Commission for the year 2011, pursuant to the Canadian Human Rights Act, R.S. 1985, c. H-6, sbs. 61(4) and to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, s. 32
- Report on the administration and enforcement of the fish habitat protection and pollution prevention provisions of the Fisheries Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Fisheries Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-14, sbs. 42.1(1)
- Department of Foreign Affairs User Fee Proposal relating to Passport Canada, pursuant to the User Fees Act, S.C. 2004, c. 6, sbs. 4(2)

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- Report on the administration of the Members of Parliament Retiring Allowances Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Members of Parliament Retiring Allowances Act, R.S. 1985, c. M-5, s. 67
- Report on the Public Service Pension Plan, together with the Auditor General's Report, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Public Service Superannuation Act, R.S. 1985, c. P-36, s. 46.
- Report on the administration of the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act, R.S. 1985, c. S-24, s. 12
- Report on the administration of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Account, together with the Auditor General's Report, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Act, R.S. 1985, c. R-11, s. 31
- The report entitled, "Canada's engagement in Afghanistan 14th and final report to Parliament"
- Report on operations under the Bretton Woods and Related Agreements Act for the year 2011, pursuant to the Bretton Woods and Related Agreements Act, R.S. 1985, c. B-7, s. 13
- Report on operations under the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Agreement Act for the year 2011, pursuant to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Agreement Act, S.C. 1991, c. 12, s. 7
- Report on the status of wild species in Canada for 2010, pursuant to the Species at Risk Act, S.C. 2002, c. 29, s. 128

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

The Committee continued its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development and will continue this week.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

- Information Commissioner Suzanne Legault and Conflict of Interest Commissioner Mary Dawson appeared before the Committee to discuss their offices' main estimates.
- This week, the Committee meets in camera to discuss a draft report on the statutory review of the Lobbying Act.

Agriculture and Agri Food

- The Committee resumed its study of the Food Supply Chain. Officials from the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food and from CFIA appeared as witnesses. Two more meetings on this subject are scheduled for this week. At the conclusion of this study, the committee will undertake a study of the Animal Products Supply Chain.

Canadian Heritage

The Committee continues its study of Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017.

Citizenship and Immigration

- Immigration Minister Jason Kenney appeared to discuss his department's main estimates and to discuss the committee's study "Standing on Guard for Thee: Ensuring that Canada's Immigration System is Secure".

Environment and Sustainable Development

The Committee is undertaking a study to provide recommendations to the Minister of the Environment to help develop the National Conservation Plan by consulting with a range of stakeholder groups, summarizing the Committee's view on what the NCP should entail based on these consultations, and recommending a series of further consultation for the Minister of the Environment. The Committee will send out a public call for persons and groups wishing to appear before the Committee regarding the NCP.

The Committee meets with environmental groups to hear recommendations regarding the development of a national conservation plan on April 3rd.

Finance

- The Committee reviewed Bill C-311, An Act to amend the Importation of Intoxicating Liquors Act (interprovincial importation of wine for personal use).
- Conservative MP Dan Albas will appear before the Committee to discuss Bill C-311.
- The Committee will meet in camera to discuss documents related to the F-35 and CF-18.

Fisheries and Oceans

- The Committee met in camera to discuss a draft report on closed containment salmon aquaculture.
- The Committee starts hearing witnesses from federal government departments on the study on invasive species that pose a threat to the Great Lakes system. Officials from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans will appear on April 2nd.

Foreign Affairs and International Development

- The Committee continued its study on the role of the private sector in achieving Canada's international development interests.

Government Operations and Estimates

The Committee continued its study of the process for considering estimates and supply.

- Queen's University professor Ned Franks appeared before the committee on March 26th;
- Auditor General Michael Ferguson and Nancy Cheng and Richard Domingue appeared on the 28th;
- former House clerk Robert Marleau and for MP John Williams will appear before the committee on April 2nd;
- David McGee, New Zealand's Parliamentary Ombudsman and former Australian Senate clerk Harry Evans by videoconference will appear on the 4th.

Health

- The Committee commenced its study of the role of government and industry in determining drug supply in Canada. Health Canada officials are invited to appear before the committee on this subject on April 3rd.

Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

- The Committee continued its study of Fixing the Skills Gap: Addressing Existing Labour Shortages in High Demand Occupations and Understanding Labour Shortages: Addressing Barriers to Filling Low-Skilled Jobs.

Industry

- The Committee resumed its study of the e-commerce market in Canada.
- The Committee meets in camera on April 3rd to discuss a draft report on the e-commerce market in Canada.

International Trade

- The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-23, An Act to implement the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Agreement on the Environment between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Agreement on Labour Cooperation between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The Committee will continue its study this week.

Justice and Human Rights

- The Minister of Justice, Rob Nicholson appeared before the Committee to discuss the department's main estimates.
- The Committee commenced its review of Bill C-310, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (trafficking in persons).

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- The Committee will review the study of Bill 217, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (mischief relating to war memorials).

National Defence

- The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces.
- The Committee proceeded to an in camera briefing on the next generation of fighter aircraft.

Natural Resources

- The Minister of Natural Resources appeared before the Committee with Deputy Minister Serge Dupont and other officials to discuss the main estimates.
- The Committee met in camera to discuss a draft report on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada.

Public Accounts

The Committee met with officials from OAG (Neil Maxwell, Louise Dubé) and Health Canada to discuss Chapter 4 (Regulating Pharmaceutical Drugs) of the Auditor General's Fall 2011 Report

Public Safety and National Security

- The Commissioner of Correctional Service of Canada (Don Head) appeared on March 27th, to discuss the Bill C-293, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (vexatious complainants).

Status of Women

- The Committee continues its study on improving economic prospects for Canadian girls.

Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

- Transport Minister Denis Lebel, Minister of State Steven Fletcher and Deputy Minister Baltacioglu appeared before the Committee to answer questions on the main estimates.
- Officials from Transport Canada, Justice Canada and Air Canada appeared before the Committee to discuss Air Canada and its legal obligations under the the Air Canada Public Participation Act, following the closure of Aveos Fleet Performance Inc. Representatives from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Aveos representatives and Air Canada representatives will also be invited.

Veterans Affairs

- The Committee resumed its review of the delivery of front-line health and wellbeing services for Canadian Veterans.

Parliamentary Committee Activities—Senate

The **Senate Aboriginal Peoples Committee** met with several government departments (HRSDC, Statistics Canada, AANDC and Justice Canada) on its study of the evolving legal and political recognition of the collective identity and rights of the Métis in Canada.

The **Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee** continued its study of the innovation in the agriculture sector from the perspective of managing of agricultural waste. The Committee will hear from Canadian Organic Growers and Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada on the importance of innovation in agricultural practices with regard to environmental sustainability on April 3rd.

The **Senate Banking, Trade and Commerce Committee** continued its five-year review of the Proceeds of crime.

The **Senate Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources Committee** continues its study on the current state and future of Canada's energy sector.

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The **Senate Foreign Affairs and International Trade Committee** met in camera to discuss a draft report on the establishment of a Charter of the Commonwealth.

The **Senate Fisheries and Oceans Committee** continues its study on the grey seal population off Canada's East Coast.

The **Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee** continued its review of Bill C-19, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act

The **Senate National Finance** met in camera to discuss a draft report on the 2012 main estimates. The Committee will continue its study of price discrepancies between Canada and the US on April 3rd.

The **Senate National Security and Defence Committee** continued its study of lessons learned during Canadian Forces operations in Afghanistan.

The **Senate Social Affairs, Science and Technology Committee** heard from Canadian Institutes of Health Research president Alain Beaudet and Health Canada officials on its study on prescription pharmaceuticals. Representatives from the Auditor General's Office (Neil Maxwell and Louise Dubé) will appear before the Committee on April 4th.

The **Senate Transport and Communications Committee** continues its study on emerging issues related to the Canadian airline industry

The **Senate subcommittee on Veterans Affairs** continues its study of transition to civilian life.

Legislative Developments — House of Commons

First Reading

- Bill C-410, An Act to establish a Pan-Canadian Strategy for Chronic Cerebrospinal Venous Insufficiency (CCSVI), private member's bill (Liberal MP Kirsty Duncan—Etobicoke North, ON).

Second Reading

- Bill C-15, Strengthening Military Justice in the Defence of Canada Act
- Bill C-24, Canada–Panama Economic Growth and Prosperity Act
- Bill C-31, Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act
- Bill S-201, National Philanthropy Day Act

Referred to Committee

- Bill C-350, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (accountability of offenders) (Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security)

Legislative Developments — Senate

First Reading

- Bill S-9, Nuclear Terrorism Act
- Bill C-288, National Flag of Canada Act

Second Reading

- Bill C-278, Purple Day Act

Third Reading

Bill S-6, First Nations Elections Act

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Royal Assent

- Bill C-34, An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the financial year ending March 31, 2012
- Bill C-35, An Act for granting to Her majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the financial year ending March 31, 2013
- Bill S-5, Financial System Review Act

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Gougeon, Marie-Josée

De: Therrien, Jocelyne
Envoyé: March 30, 2012 12:17 PM
À: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Objet: Re: Hearing before the Senate - Administration of the Senate

Indicateur de suivi: Assurer un suivi
État de l'indicateur: Terminé

Ok - merci de m'en avoir informé.

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld / Envoyé de mon terminal mobile

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 11:31 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Hearing before the Senate - Administration of the Senate

Jocelyne je viens de parler à Gord et il m'a dit qu'il t'a laissé un nouveau message car il paraît que la présence de Mike à la comparution devant le comité du sénat n'est plus requise.

Ils rencontrent Mike mercredi pour la vérif de la Chambre, ils en discuteront avec lui à ce moment et on saura après si on doit réserver ou non quelquechose dans son calendrier.

MJ

Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

Director, Parliamentary Liaison | Directrice, Liaison avec le Parlement

Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

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Gougeon, Marie-Josée

De: Therrien, Jocelyne
Envoyé: March 29, 2012 3:12 PM
À: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Objet: FW: got your message

Indicateur de suivi: Assurer un suivi
État de l'indicateur: Terminé

From: MacLellan, Clyde
Sent: March 29, 2012 2:39 PM
To: Stock, Gordon; Therrien, Jocelyne s.21(1)(a)
Cc: Flanagan, Lori-Lee s.21(1)(b)
Subject: RE: got your message

And I think if that becomes an issue, that you schedule something without me. We can then link up on the matter of the Senate meeting when I return.

[REDACTED]

From: Stock, Gordon
Sent: March 29, 2012 2:34 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Flanagan, Lori-Lee; MacLellan, Clyde
Subject: Re: got your message

Yes, it is Senate. We have a prep for House next wed. Still drafting an opening statement. Will prep one for senate as well. May e difficult to schedule something where Clyde can attend as he is gone from evening Apr 5th to the 20th.
Thanks!
... Gordon

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 01:42 PM
To: Stock, Gordon
Subject: got your message

I presume that the hearing is with the Senate Committee ? we should probably schedule a prep ?

Pages 61 to / à 64
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Gougeon, Marie-Josée

De: Dupuis, Veronique
Envoyé: March 29, 2012 4:02 PM
À: Maxwell, Neil; Dubé, Louise
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Duhamel, Liette; Wheeler, Susan; Desjardins, Ghislain; O'Shaughnessy, Shailagh
Objet: Updated Notice of Meeting SOCI hearing Apr 4, 2012

Indicateur de suivi: Assurer un suivi
État de l'indicateur: Terminé

Notice of Meeting

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

4:15 PM

[Previous Meeting](#)

Televised live on PTN

 Webcast

 Subject to Change

Location: Room 2, Victoria Building 140 Wellington Street
Clerk: Jessica Richardson (613) 990-6087

Agenda

1. Study on prescription pharmaceuticals in Canada

Witnesses

Health Canada

- Paul Glover, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Products and Food Branch (HPFB)
- Barbara Sabourin, Director General, Therapeutic Products Directorate, HPFB

Office of the Auditor General of Canada

- Neil Maxwell, Assistant Auditor General
- Louise Dubé, Principal

Véronique Dupuis, M.Sc.

Parliamentary Liaison Officer | Agente de Liaison avec le Parlement

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Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: March 28, 2012 8:17 AM
To: Ferguson, Michael; Maxwell, Neil; Dubé, Louise; Therrien, Jocelyne; Dupuis, Veronique; Wheeler, Susan; Smith, Anne-Marie
Subject: Prep meeting - 29 Mar 2012 - Senate Social Affairs hearing
Attachments: PROXI-#727308-v3-2012-04-04 - Senate Social Affairs - Opening statement - 2011_11 Ch 4 (Regulating Drugs) E.docx

Please find attached the Senate Social Affairs opening statement on regulating pharmaceutical drugs for the prep meeting of March 29th, 2:00 p.m.

Liette Duhamel
Parliamentary Liaison Coordinator | Coordonnatrice, Liaison avec le Parlement
Parliamentary Liaison | Liaison avec le Parlement
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
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**OPENING STATEMENT OF NEIL MAXWELL
ASSISTANT AUDITOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF CANADA**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS,
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

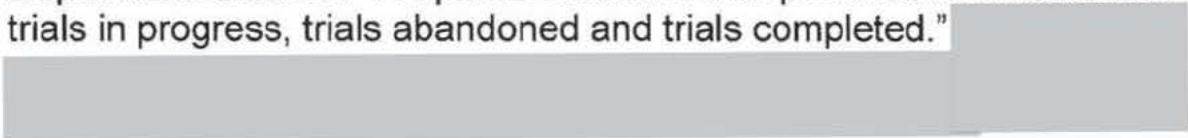
**CHAPTER 4, NOVEMBER 2011 REPORT
REGULATING PHARMACEUTICAL DRUGS—HEALTH CANADA**

4 APRIL 2012

1. Mr. Chair, thank you for this opportunity to present the results of our audit of the regulation of pharmaceutical drugs at Health Canada. The audit covered a number of aspects of pharmaceutical drug regulation. Today, we are focusing on our findings on clinical trials and the drug approval process. With me is Louise Dubé, the Principal responsible for audits in the health sector.
2. Each year, about 700 drugs are tested in clinical trials in Canada. Health Canada estimates that there are 4,000 active clinical trial sites in the country, with many sites testing the same drug. In 2009 and 2010, the Department reviewed about 2,600 applications and about 1,800 amendments to clinical trials, to assess whether the proposed trial or amendment posed undue risks to trial participants. We found that the Department had consistently reviewed clinical trial applications and amendments in a timely manner.
3. Health Canada also plays a key role in overseeing clinical trials. Under the *Food and Drug Regulations*, clinical trial sponsors, such as drug companies and hospitals, must inform the Department of all serious, unexpected adverse drug reactions for drugs being tested in Canadian clinical trials—regardless of whether the adverse drug reaction occurred at a trial site in Canada or in another country. The Department received 115,000 reports in 2010, which is up from 43,000 in 2007.
4. At the time of our audit, there were no standard operating procedures for Health Canada's monitoring activities to ensure that it consistently

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focused on the trials that posed the greatest risk. Hundreds of potential safety issues were waiting to be assessed, and the Department did not have documented criteria for prioritizing these assessments based on the risks posed to clinical trial participants.

5. Health Canada also inspects clinical trial sites to verify that authorized trials comply with the *Food and Drug Regulations*, so the rights and safety of clinical trial subjects are respected. The Department verifies that the data generated by the trial site is of high quality. Its strategy is to inspect two percent of Canadian clinical trial sites, which is about 80 sites, in any given year.
6. In 2010, Health Canada inspected only 50 sites. According to the Department, this was because it lacked resources. Furthermore, because the Department does not regularly collect up-to-date information from all clinical trials, such as the number of participants enrolled, it is not able to make comparative risk-based decisions about which sites to inspect. **s.21(1)(a)**
7. We examined steps taken by Health Canada to support the transparency of authorized clinical trials. In 2004, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health recommended that the Department create a "... public database that provides information on trials in progress, trials abandoned and trials completed." **s.21(1)(b)**

8. In 1999 and 2004, parliamentary committees requested that Health Canada report annually on the findings of clinical trial inspections. However, the Department reported publicly on its inspection activities only in 2003 and 2004.
9. We will now turn to our findings on the drug approval process. Health Canada received about 4,400 drug submissions in 2009 and 2010. The Department is not meeting its service standards for the timely review of most of the drug submissions it receives, thus delaying Canadians' access to either the health benefits of new drugs. It is also delaying access to more affordable treatments. We recommended that Health Canada consider streamlining its review processes and using

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information from foreign regulators.

10. We found that the drug approval process needs to be more transparent. Unlike some regulators in other countries, Health Canada does not disclose information on drugs that
 - it rejects,
 - the manufacturer withdraws from the review process, or
 - are approved with conditions.
11. Health care providers have the discretion to prescribe a drug for conditions that the drug has not been authorized to treat. Therefore, it is important that health care providers be informed when Health Canada rejects a marketed drug for new use, so they understand the Department's concerns.
12. Mr. Chair, the regulation of pharmaceutical drugs is important to Canadians. With an aging population, the role of pharmaceuticals is expected to grow as researchers come up with new therapies to replace previous treatments or provide new options where no treatment existed before. The Committee may wish to obtain the assurance and a commitment from Health Canada to implement our recommendations in a timely manner.
13. Mr. Chair, this concludes my opening statement. We would be pleased to answer your Committee's questions.

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is under consultation

est sous consultation

Pages 71 to / à 74
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 26, 2012 11:03 AM
To: Forsberg, Patricia
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Wheeler, Susan
Subject: material for Notice to the Speaker - CESD report

Hi Pat!

Would it be possible for you to provide us with the text description of the CESD chapters by this Friday ??

Thanks
Jocelyne

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is under consultation

est sous consultation

**Pages 77 to / à 78
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Pages 79 to / à 80
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: March 22, 2012 9:51 AM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: Pre-tabling for chapter 0

Bonjour Susan aurons-nous encore besoin du pre-tabling pour le chapitre 0 prévu pour le 5 avril?
Pour finaliser le press release?

Merci
Marie-Josée

Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.
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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

Please consider the environment before printing

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: March 22, 2012 11:30 AM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: Suggestion

Susan je parlais avec Wendy ce matin de la formation de lundi. Elle a trouvé l'exercice très utile cependant elle reconnaissait que c'est parfois difficile de mettre ça en pratique devant les comités.

Alors j'ai pensé que ce serait peut-être utile que l'instructrice (Vanessa) assiste à une comparution afin de bien saisir les défis dont les VGAs ont à faire face comme témoins.

Just a thought!

Marie-Josée

Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

Director, Parliamentary Liaison | Directrice, Liaison avec le Parlement

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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

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Frappier, Julie

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: March 21, 2012 11:08 AM
To: LIST-DX-TO-AG
Cc: Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Parliamentary summary - Week of Mar 12-16 / Sommaire parlementaire - semaine du 12 au 16 mars
Attachments: PROXI-#725337-v2-Weekly parliamentary summary - Mar 12-16 2012.DOCX

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

Liette Duhamel
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PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY March 12 - 16, 2012

The House of Commons and the Senate will resume sitting on March 26 and 27, 2012, respectively.
La Chambre des communes et le Sénat reprendront respectivement leurs travaux les 26 et 27 mars 2012.

Reports from Committees

- The Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food presented its Second Report, Main Estimates 2012-13: Votes 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 under AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD.
- The Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development presented its First Report, Statutory Review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.
- The Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development presented its Second Report, Main Estimates 2012-13: Votes 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 under ENVIRONMENT.
- The Standing Committee on Finance presented its Seventh Report, Bill S-5, An Act to amend the law governing financial institutions and to provide for related and consequential matters.
- The Standing Committee on Health presented its Sixth Report, Main Estimates 2012-13: Votes 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 40, 45, 50, 55 and 60 under HEALTH.
- The Standing Committee on International Trade presented its Second Report, Main Estimates 2012-2013: Vote 20 under FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE.
- The Standing Committee International Trade presented its First Report, Negotiations toward a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union.
- The Standing Committee on Justice and Human Right presented Fifth Report, Bill C-26, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (citizen's arrest and the defences of property and persons), with amendments.
- The Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs presented its Sixteen Report, Private Members' Business.
- The Standing Committee on National Defence presented its Second Report, Supplementary Estimates (C) 2011-12: Votes 1c and 10c under NATIONAL DEFENCE.
- The Standing Committee on National Defence presented its Third Report, Main Estimates 2012-13: Votes 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 under NATIONAL DEFENCE.
- The Standing Committee on the Status of Women presented its Second Report, Main Estimates 2012-2013: Votes 30 and 35 under HUMAN RESOURCES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT.
- The Legislative Committee on Bill C-11 presented its First Report, Bill C-11, Copyright Modernization Act, with amendments.
- The Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples presented its Fourth Report, Bill S-6, An Act respecting the election and term of office of chiefs and councillors of certain First Nations and the composition of council of those First Nations, without amendment.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

- Copy of the Regulations amending the Special Economic Measures (Syria) Regulations (P.C. 2012-255), pursuant to the Special Economic Measures Act, S.C. 1992, c. 17, sbs. 7(1).
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 and the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2012 of the Atlantic Pilotage Authority, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 and the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2012 of the Great Lakes Pilotage Authority, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 and of the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2012 of the Laurentian Pilotage Authority, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 and of the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2012 of the Pacific Pilotage Authority, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4)

- Proposed Regulations Amending the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, dated March 2012, pursuant to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, S.C. 2001, c. 27, sbs. 5(2).
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 and of the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2012 of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Summary of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2013 of the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada, pursuant to the Physical Activity and Sport Act, S.C. 2003, c. 2, sbs. 32(4).
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan and the Operating and Capital Budget for 2011-2012 of the Business Development Bank of Canada, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Summary of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 of the Canadian Tourism Commission, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Report on the review of the Farm Debt Mediation Act and the Farm Debt Mediation Service for the fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2009-2010, pursuant to the Farm Debt Mediation Act, S.C. 1997, c. 21, sbs. 28(3).
- Agreements for RCMP policing services made between Canada and the Municipality of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, pursuant to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act, R.S. 1985, c. R-10, sbs. 20(5).
- Agreements for RCMP policing services made between Canada and the Municipality of Blackfalds, Alberta, pursuant to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act, R.S. 1985, c. R-10, sbs. 20(5).
- Agreements for RCMP policing services made between Canada and the Municipality of Oxford, Nova Scotia, pursuant to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act, R.S. 1985, c. R-10, sbs. 20(5).

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

The Committee resumed its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

The Committee resumed the statutory review of the Lobbying Act.

Agriculture and Agri Food

- The Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz appeared before the Committee to discuss his department's main estimates.
- The Committee resumed its study of the Food Supply Chain. Officials from the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food and from CFIA appeared as witnesses.

Canadian Heritage

The Committee resumed its study of Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017. Officials from the National Gallery of Canada and the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation appeared as witnesses.

Citizenship and Immigration

- The Committee resumed its study "Standing on Guard for Thee: Ensuring that Canada's Immigration System is Secure".
- The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Jason Kenney, and senior officials from the Department appeared before the Committee to discuss the supplementary estimates. The Minister will appear before the Committee on March 27th to discuss the main estimates.

Environment and Sustainable Development

- The Environment Minister Peter Kent and senior officials from Environment Canada appeared before the Committee to discuss his department's main estimates.

Finance

- The Committee resumed consideration of Bill S-5, An Act to amend the law governing financial institutions and to provide for related and consequential matters. Officials from the Department of Finance appeared as witnesses.

Fisheries and Oceans

- The Committee resumed its study of closed containment salmon aquaculture.
- The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Keith Ashfield, and Claire Dansereau, Deputy Minister, appeared before the Committee to discuss the main estimates.

Foreign Affairs and International Development

- The Committee resumed its study on the role of the private sector in achieving Canada's international development interests.
- The Foreign Affairs Minister appeared before the Committee to discuss the main estimates.

Government Operations and Estimates

- The President of the Treasury Board, Tony Clement, and Michelle d'Auray, Secretary, appeared before the Committee to discuss the main estimates.
- Public Works Minister Rona Ambrose and François Guimont, Deputy Minister, appeared before the Committee to discuss her department's main estimates.
- The Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and the President of the Privy Council will appear at a later date to discuss the supplementary estimates.
- After the break, the Committee will resume its review of the process for considering the estimates and supply.

Health

- The Minister of Health, Leona Aglukkaq and Glenda Yeates, Deputy Minister, appeared before the Committee to discuss the main estimates.
- The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-300, An Act respecting a Federal Framework for Suicide Prevention.
- Following the study of Bill C-300, three meetings will be devoted to examine the role of government and industry in determining drug supply in Canada, how the provinces and territories determine what drugs are required in their jurisdiction, how the industry responds to them, and the impact this has on stakeholders.

Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

- The Committee continued its study on fixing the skills gap by addressing labour shortages in high demand occupations and addressing barriers to filling low-skilled jobs.
- The Committee resumed its study of A Framework for Success: Practical Recommendations to Further Shorten the Foreign Qualification Recognition Process.

Industry

- Industry Minister Christian Paradis and Richard Dicteri, Deputy Minister, appeared before the Committee to discuss the department's main estimates.

International Trade

- The Minister of International Trade, Ed Fast, appeared before the Committee to discuss the main estimates.
- The Committee resumed its study of the Trade Commissioner Service.
- The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-23, An Act to implement the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Agreement on the Environment between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Agreement on Labour Cooperation between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

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Justice and Human Rights

- The Minister of Justice, Rob Nicholson appeared before the Committee to discuss the department's main estimates.
- The Committee resumed its study on the state of organized crime.
- The Committee commenced its review of Bill C-310, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (trafficking in persons).
- After the break, the Committee will commence the study of Bill 217, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (mischief relating to war memorials).

National Defence

- Defence Minister Peter MacKay and Associate Defence Minister Julian Fantino appeared before the Committee to discuss their department's main estimates.
- The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces.

Natural Resources

- The Committee resumed its study on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada.

Public Accounts

- The Committee met with officials from the OAG (Ronnie Campbell and John Affleck), Industry Canada, Infrastructure Canada, TBS, Finance Canada and PCO, on its study of Chapter 1 (Fall 2011 Report) Canada's Economic Action Plan.
- The Committee resumed work on draft reports on Chapter 1 (2011 Status Report) Financial Management and Control and Risk Management; Chapter 2 (Spring 2011 Report) G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund; and Chapter 3 (Spring 2011 Report) Reserve Force Pension Plan.
- The following schedule was agreed to:
 - March 27, 2012, consideration of draft reports
 - March 29, 2012, study of Chapter 4 (Fall 2011 Report) Regulating Pharmaceutical Drugs
 - April 24, 2012, study of Chapter 5 (Fall 2011 Report) Maintaining and Repairing Military Equipment
- The Committee took note of the expected tabling of the Spring 2012 Report of the Auditor General of Canada on April 3, 2012 at approximately 10:00 a.m., and the confidential MP preview. The Committee will undertake a study of the Report, following its tabling in the House. Michael Ferguson, the Auditor General, will be invited to appear before the Committee on April 5, 2012 in connection with this study.

Public Safety and National Security

- The Committee commenced consideration of Bill C-293, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (vexatious complainants).
- Don Head, Commissioner of Correctional Service of Canada, will appear before the Committee on March 27th, to discuss Bill C-293.

Status of Women

- The Committee continued its study on improving economic prospects for Canadian girls.
- The Minister for Status of Women, Rona Ambrose, and Suzanne Clément, Head of Status of Women Canada, appeared before the Committee to discuss the main estimates.

Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

- The Committee resumed its study of Innovative Transportation Technologies.

Veterans Affairs

- The Committee resumed its review of the delivery of front-line health and wellbeing services for Canadian Veterans. The President of the Public Service Commission of Canada, Anne-Marie Robinson, appeared before the Committee on this study.

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- The Minister of Veterans Affairs, Steven Blaney, appeared before the committee to discuss the main estimates.

Parliamentary Committee Activities—Senate

The **Senate Aboriginal Peoples** met in camera to examine and report on the federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and on other matters generally relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada.

The **Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee** continued to examine research innovation efforts in the agricultural sector, focussing on why healthy trade relationships are essential to an innovative agri-food sector; and the innovation in the agriculture sector from the perspective of food and beverage processing firms.

The **Senate Banking, Trade and Commerce Committee** continued its study on the five-year review of the Proceeds of Crime and Terrorist Financing Act.

The **Senate Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources Committee** continued its study on the current state and future of Canada's energy sector. The Committee heard from the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Yukon.

The **Senate Fisheries and Oceans Committee** continues its study of the management of the grey seal population off Canada's east coast. The committee met in camera to study the lobster fishery in Atlantic Canada and Quebec.

The **Senate Foreign Affairs and International Trade Committee** continued its study on the establishment of a Charter of the Commonwealth and its implications for Canada.

The **Senate Human Rights Committee** continued its study on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security and heard from the International Development Research Centre and the United Nations Association in Canada. The Committee commenced its study on issues of discrimination in the hiring and promotion practices of the Federal Public Service, to study the extent to which targets to achieve employment equity are being met, and to examine labour market outcomes for minority groups in the private sector.

The **Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee** met with the Minister of Public Safety on Bill C-19, an Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act.

The **Senate National Finance Committee** met to examine the main estimates. The Deputy Minister of Canadian Heritage (Daniel Jean) and the Commissioner of Correctional Service of Canada (Don Head) appeared as witnesses.

The **Senate Social Affairs, Science and Technology** continued its study on social inclusion and cohesion in Canada. The committee met in camera to examine the progress in implementing the 2004, 10-Year Plan to Strengthen Health Care.

The **Senate Transport and Communications Committee** continued its study of issues related to the Canadian airline industry.

Legislative Developments — House of Commons

First Reading

- Bill C-36, Protecting Canada's Seniors Act
- Bill C-408, Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to ensure that warning labels are affixed to products containing toxic substances (NDP MP Peter Julian - Burnaby-New Westminster, BC)
- Bill C-409, Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Old Age Security Act (application for supplement) – (NDP MP Laurin Liu - Rivière-des-Mille-Îles, QC)

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Second Reading

- Bill C-31, Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act

- Bill S-4, Safer Railways Act
- Bill C-350, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (accountability of offenders),

Defeated at Second Reading

- Bill C-267, Canada Water Preservation Act

Referred to Committee

- Bill C-377, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (requirements for labour organizations)

Report Stage

- Bill C-314, Breast Density Awareness Act
- Bill C-316, An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (incarceration)

Third Reading

- Bill C-288, National Flag of Canada Act

Legislative Developments — Senate

First Reading

- Bill S-205, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (carbon offset tax credit)
- Bill S-209, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (prize fights)
- Bill C-278, Purple Day Act, was read a first time.
- Bill C-34, An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the financial year ending March 31, 2012
- Bill C-35, An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the financial year ending March 31, 2013

Second Reading

- Bill C-290, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (sports betting)

Third Reading

- Bill S-6, First Nations Elections Act

Royal Assent

- Bill C-10, Safe Streets and Communities Act
- Bill C-33, An Act to provide for the continuation and resumption of air service operations

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is under consultation

est sous consultation

Page 91

is under consultation

est sous consultation

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: March 19, 2012 9:28 AM
To: Ferguson, Michael; Berthelette, Jerome; Reed, John
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Wheeler, Susan; Desjardins, Ghislain; Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: AG references - HoC - F-35 - Friday March 16, 2012

41st PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

EDITED HANSARD

Friday, March 16, 2012

ORAL QUESTIONS

National Defence

[Translation]

Mr. Joe Comartin (Windsor—Tecumseh, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, the 700 complaints came from Canadians, not from New Democrats.

The Conservatives have also been careless and haphazard with the F-35 file.

The Conservatives have really messed up the plan to replace the CF-18s. The **Auditor General** is about to release a report confirming that the Minister of National Defence misled Parliament on the subject of the F-35s. That is very serious.

Has the government seen the report—we know that it has—and did it mislead Parliament?

[English]

Hon. John Baird (Minister of Foreign Affairs, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, obviously, I have not seen the report in question. It would be inappropriate to speculate on such a report. I think the normal practice is that we respect a **new officer of Parliament**. The report will be tabled in Parliament before it is commented on.

Canada has been a partner in the F-35 program for almost 15 years. Our plan is to continue in the program. As we have not signed a contract for purchase, we retain the flexibility to remain within our budget. Ultimately, however, the government will ensure that the Royal Canadian Air Force has the equipment it needs to do the job we ask of it.

Mr. Matthew Kellway (Beaches—East York, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, the government's answers on the F-35 have been a bit stealth-like, evading questions every day. We have been warning the Conservatives about their misguided approach to the F-35s. Now the **Auditor General** is set to report that defence officials have misled Parliament on the F-35 deal. The Conservatives have just run with Lockheed Martin's numbers and have failed to do their homework. Once again, corporate interests trump Canadian taxpayers under this Conservative government.

Has the government seen the report by the **Auditor General**, and what is it going to do about it?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, I will not comment on speculation. Canada has been a partner in the joint strike fighter program for 15 years. Our plan is to continue in the program. We have not signed a contract for purchase, as we have said.

Ultimately, we will ensure that we address the forthcoming report. As of now, we are not going to speculate.

Mr. Matthew Kellway (Beaches—East York, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, Canadians want answers to these questions. All they are getting from the minister is doublespeak. This is not the first time the government has been blasted by the **Auditor General** for complete mismanagement of military procurement. Helicopters come to mind. Even a British MP thinks Canada should get its money back for the subs boondoggle. Now we learn that the **Auditor General** agrees with New Democrats that this government has misled Parliament in its crusade on the F-35.

Will the government finally agree to hold an open and fair competition to replace the CF-18s?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, we respect the important work of the **Auditor General**. Parliament will receive the final report in the near future. Until then, it would be totally inappropriate for me to comment on rumours of what may or may not be included in that report.

National Defence

Hon. Wayne Easter (Malpeque, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, misleading Parliament has become the mantra of the government, whether it is its dishonest defence of Conservative election fraud or, as now revealed, the F-35 boondoggle.

The **Auditor General** will be releasing a report that will find DND has misled Parliament on the F-35 purchase.

How can the Minister of National Defence explain away this damning indictment or does the minister share the low standard set by the Prime Minister when he deliberately misled Canadians on a non-existent contract?

Hon. John Baird:

Kick him out.

The Speaker:

Order, please. The member knows that the term "deliberately mislead" is unparliamentary. I will ask him to withdraw that portion of his question.

Hon. Wayne Easter:

Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw the word "deliberate" but the Prime Minister did mislead this Parliament.

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, it is very sad to hear that kind of commentary, in all honesty.

The Prime Minister has already addressed this question himself in the House. We have been very clear. We have not signed any contract for a purchase. We, like the previous Liberal government, have signed a memorandum of understanding related to the program. It is unfortunate that the member opposite would not respect the explanation on the part of the Prime Minister.

[Translation]

Hon. Denis Coderre (Bourassa, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, the fact is that the Prime Minister and his posse of ministers told us over and over that they had a contract. In fact, on January 14, 2011, he said, "Cancelling a contract that way would be completely irresponsible. The opposition parties must stop playing partisan games with these crucial contracts."

The government is trying to fool the public once again. It misled the public in its election campaign. Now the **Auditor General** has caught the Conservatives in the act, and they do not know what to do next.

What will the minister do about this "contract"? Will he tender it given that this is about taxpayers' money?

[English]

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, we respect the work of the **Auditor General of Canada**. Parliament will receive the final report in the next little while. Until then, it would be totally inappropriate for me to comment on rumours of what may or may not be in the **Auditor General's** report. It would be inappropriate for me to speculate and I will not do that.

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Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

Director, Parliamentary Liaison | Directrice, Liaison avec le Parlement

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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

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**Pages 95 to / à 98
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 17, 2012 8:58 PM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Cc: Russell-Laforest, Meagan; Duhamel, Liette; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: Qs and As for AAGs

Hi Susan:

I forgot to get the revised set of Qs and As from you before leaving on Friday. Would it be possible to provide them to Meagan so that she can send them to me via IDI please ?

Meagan, as discussed, perhaps you could e-mail the document to Marit and ask her to print me a copy.

Tks

Jocelyne

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld / Envoyé de mon terminal mobile

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: March 16, 2012 11:58 AM
To: MacLellan, Clyde; Riopelle, Mary; Nash, Carla; Smith, Anne-Marie; Therrien, Jocelyne; Dupuis, Veronique; Wheeler, Susan; Guyot, Francoise; Forsberg, Patricia
Cc: Dassie, Amabile; Nassef, Omnia; Dugas Patry, Viviane; Bedard, Marise
Subject: Draft chapter - Message briefing - Farm Credit Canada - Tuesday March 20, 2012
Attachments: PROXI-#414250-v1-Cover sheet for PX drafts - special exams.DOC; FCC Special Examination - AG debrief version.docx

Importance: High

Please find attached documents for meeting in subject.

Marie-Josée

Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

Director, Parliamentary Liaison | Directrice, Liaison avec le Parlement

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**Pages 101 to / à 139
are withheld pursuant to section
sont retenues en vertu de l'article**

16.1(1)(a)

**of the Access to Information Act
de la Loi sur l'accès à l'information**

**Pages 140 to / à 141
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: March 16, 2012 12:19 PM
To: Ferguson, Michael; Berthelette, Jerome; Reed, John; Wheeler, Susan
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Question Period this morning - Upcoming report on Fighter Jets

FYI

During Question Period this morning, NDP and Liberal MPs namely Denis Coderre (Lib) and Matthew Kellway (NDP) said that Canadians will be learning from the upcoming Auditor General report that Parliament has been misled and that the AG agrees with their parties that there has been mismanagement of the F-35 program.

In his reply, the Associate Minister Julian Fantino said his party will not comment on speculations and that they are waiting to see the final report of the AG.

I will be sending the actual Hansard excerpts on Monday morning.

Marie-Josée

Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

Please consider the environment before printing

Frappier, Julie

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: March 16, 2012 8:24 AM
To: Reed, John; Ferguson, Michael; Berthelette, Jerome; Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Bissonnette, Céline; Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Re: National Post news story says AG report wil say DND misled Parliament

Susan

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld / Envoyé de mon terminal mobile

From: Reed, John
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 08:08 AM
To: Wheeler, Susan; Ferguson, Michael; Berthelette, Jerome; Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Bissonnette, Céline; Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Re: National Post news story says AG report wil say DND misled Parliament

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld / Envoyé de mon terminal mobile

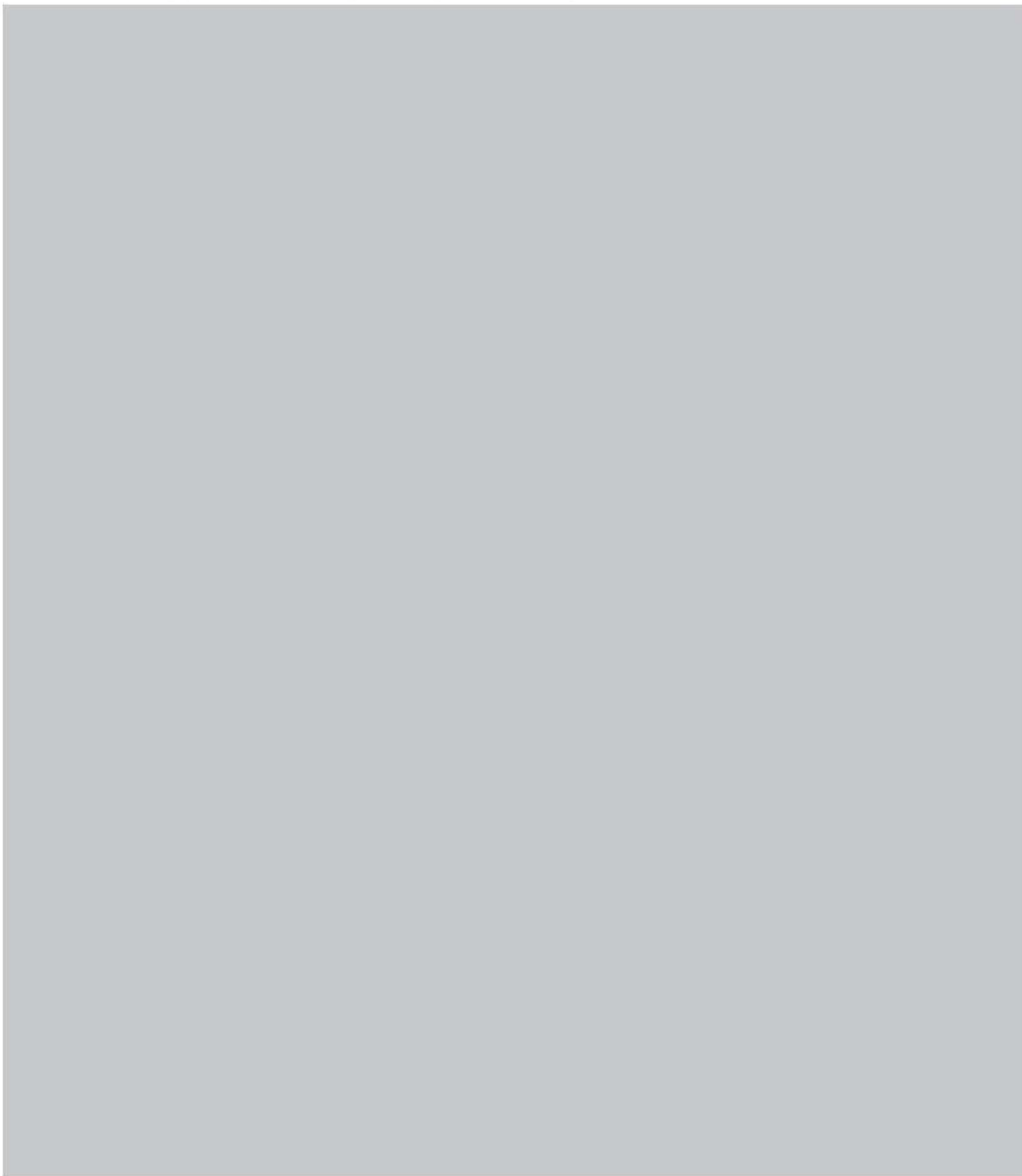
s.16.1(1)(a)

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 06:08 PM
To: Ferguson, Michael; Berthelette, Jerome; Reed, John; Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Bissonnette, Céline; Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: National Post news story says AG report wil say DND misled Parliament

The National Post's John Ivison has posted a story on the Post's internet site (copied below) that says our report will accuse DND of misleading Parliament. However, the story is based on information from "someone who has read it (our report)".

Susan

John Ivison Mar 15, 2012 – 5:21 PM ET | **Last Updated: Mar 15, 2012 5:28 PM ET**



Page 145

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 14, 2012 8:35 AM
To: Duhamel, Liette
Subject: FW: 2nd meeting with Mike

Pour ton info Liette.

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 14, 2012 8:35 AM
To: Cheng, Nancy
Cc: Domingue, Richard; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Frappier, Julie
Subject: RE: 2nd meeting with Mike

Hi Nancy !

Mike is fine with 7am. So I will book Monday morning.

Julie: can we use the telecom system in the AG board room for this purpose ?

Jocelyne

From: Cheng, Nancy
Sent: March 13, 2012 7:25 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Domingue, Richard; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Frappier, Julie
Subject: RE: 2nd meeting with Mike

Jocelyne,

I am available on either day. Is 7am too early for Mike? If so, we can do Tuesday at 8am his time to accommodate. If not, Monday is probably better. In case Mike asks for changes, meeting on Monday would give us more time to respond.

Nancy

Nancy Cheng

Assistant Auditor General | Vérificateur général adjoint
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
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Telephone | Téléphone 613-952-0213 (6262)
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From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 13, 2012 5:49 PM
To: Cheng, Nancy
Cc: Domingue, Richard; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Frappier, Julie
Subject: 2nd meeting with Mike

Nancy :

000146

Mike would prefer that we have our second meeting on the Monday or Tuesday before the hearing, rather than next week. He will be in the NWT and so he proposes a telephone conference, early in the morning before he starts his meetings. Therefore, I would propose either 9 am on Monday the 26th (it will be 7 am for him) or 9 am or 10 am on Tuesday the 27th.

We can fax him the draft opening statement and Qs and As towards the end of next week in Toronto (he is at PSAB Wednesday to Friday).

Let me know whether you prefer the 26th or 27th.

Thanks

Joc

000147

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: March 14, 2012 9:44 AM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG; LIST-PX; 'LIST-DX-EQUIVALENTS'
Cc: Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Parliamentary summary - Week of Mar 5-9 / Sommaire parlementaire - semaine du 5 au 9 mars
Attachments: PROXI-#722005-v2-Weekly parliamentary summary - Mar 5 - 9 2012.DOCX

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

Liette Duhamel
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Teletypewriter | Téléimprimeur 613-954-8042

Reports from Committees—House of Commons

- The Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration presented its Second Report, Cutting the queue: reducing Canada's immigration backlogs and wait times.
- The Standing Committee on Finance presented its Sixth Report, Bill C-25, An Act relating to pooled registered pension plans and making related amendments to other Acts.
- The Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development presented its Second Report, Supplementary Estimates (C) 2011-2012: Votes 1c, 5c and 10c under INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT, votes 27c and 29c under HEALTH.
- The Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development presented its Third Report, Main Estimates 2012-2013: Votes 1, 5, 10, L15, L20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 under INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT, votes 30 and 35 under HEALTH.
- The Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs presented its Third Report, Supplementary Estimates (C) 2011-2012: Vote 5c under VETERANS AFFAIRS.
- The Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates presented its Fifth Report, Supplementary Estimates (C) 2011-2012: Vote 1c under PRIVY COUNCIL.
- The Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics presented its First Report, Access to Information Dispute and the Resulting Court Actions Concerning CBC.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

- The summary for the Global Centre for Pluralism Corporate Plan for 2012
- Report of the Blue Water Bridge Authority for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010, pursuant to the Alternative Fuels Act, S.C. 1995, c. 20, s. 8.
- Report of the Blue Water Bridge Authority for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Alternative Fuels Act, S.C. 1995, c. 20, s. 8.
- Summary of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 of Export Development Canada, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4)
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2011-2012 to 2015-2016 and of the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2011-2012 of the Old Port of Montreal Corporation Inc., pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4)
- The special report of the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner concerning an investigation into a disclosure of wrongdoing
- Agreements for RCMP policing services made between Canada and the Municipality of Redcliff, Alberta, pursuant to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act, R.S. 1985, c. R-10, sbs. 20(5)

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

- The Hon. John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and senior officials appeared to discuss the Department's main estimates.
- The Committee resumed its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development and continues this week.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

- The Committee resumed the statutory review of the Lobbying Act.

000149

- This week, the Committee meets to discuss committee business.

Agriculture and Agri Food

- The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2.
- The Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz will appear to discuss his department's main estimates on March 12th.
- The Committee will resume its study of the Food Supply Chain. Officials from the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food and from CFIA will appear on March 14th.

Citizenship and Immigration

- The Committee resumed its study "Standing on Guard for Thee: Ensuring that Canada's Immigration System is Secure".
- The Hon. Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism and officials from the Department will appear to discuss the Expenditure Plans for the Department on March 13th.

Environment and Sustainable Development

- The Committee resumed its statutory review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.
- The Committee commenced its study to provide recommendations regarding the development of a national conservation plan and heard from Environment Canada and Parks Canada officials.
- The Environment Minister Peter Kent and senior officials from Environment Canada will appear to discuss his department's main estimates on March 13th.

Finance

- The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-25, An Act relating to pooled registered pension plans and making related amendments to other Acts. Minister of State (Finance) Ted Menzies appeared.
- The Committee commenced consideration of Bill S-5, An Act to amend the law governing financial institutions and to provide for related and consequential matters and continues this week.

Fisheries and Oceans

- There were no meetings last week.
- This week, the Committee resumes its study of closed containment salmon aquaculture.
- The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Keith Ashfield, and departmental officials will appear to discuss the main estimates.

Foreign Affairs and International Development

- The Committee resumed a briefing on the situation in Ukraine.

Government Operations and Estimates

- PCO officials appeared before the Committee to discuss the supplementary estimates. Officials from HRSDC and Service Canada appeared to discuss the supplementary estimates.
- Public Works Minister Rona Ambrose will appear on March 12th to discuss her department's main estimates.
- March 26, April 4, 2012 will be devoted to the study of the process for considering the estimates and supply. The following witnesses will be invited: the Auditor General of Canada; David McGee, former clerk of the New Zealand House of Representatives; Harry Evans, former clerk of the Australian Senate; Robert Marleau, former clerk of the House of Commons; John Williams, former MP and former chair of the PAC; Joaquim Warner of the London School of Economics; Allen Shick of the University of Maryland; and Donald Savoie of the Université de Moncton; and Ned Franks.

Health

- The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-300, An Act respecting a Federal Framework for Suicide Prevention and this week will commence its clause-by-clause consideration.

000150

- The Committee will devote five meetings to its study on improved drug safety measures; the Minister of Health will be invited.
- The Minister of Health, Leona Aglukkaq will appear on March 13th to discuss the main estimates for the department.

Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

- The Committee continues its study on fixing the skills gap by addressing labour shortages in high demand occupations and addressing barriers to filling low-skilled jobs.

Industry

Industry Minister Christian Paradis will appear on the 15th to discuss his department's main estimates.

International Trade

- The Committee resumed its study of the Trade Commissioner Service.
- The Minister of International Trade, Ed Fast, and officials from DFAIT will appear on March 13th to discuss the main estimates.

Justice and Human Rights

- The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-26, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (citizen's arrest and the defences of property and persons).
- The Minister of Justice, Rob Nicholson, will appear on March 13th to discuss the department's main estimates.
- The Committee will consider Bill C-310, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (trafficking in persons) on March 15th.

National Defence

- The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces and will continue this week.
- Defence Minister Peter MacKay and Associate Defence Minister Julian Fantino will appear on March 13th to discuss their department's main estimates.

Natural Resources

- The Committee resumed its study on the current and Future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada.

Public Accounts

- The Committee resumed work on its draft report on Chapter 1, Financial Management and Control and Risk Management, of the 2011 Status Report.
- The following schedule was agreed to: March 29, 2012, Chapter 4, Regulating Pharmaceutical Drugs — Health Canada, of the Fall 2011 Report
- This week, the Committee meets with officials from the OAG (Ronnie Campbell and John Affleck), Industry Canada, Infrastructure Canada, TBS, Finance Canada and PCO on Chapter 1 of the Fall 2011 Report — Canada's Economic Action Plan.

Public Safety and National Security

- The Committee resumed its study of electronic monitoring.
- It was agreed that four meetings will be devoted to the consideration of Bill C-293, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (vexatious complaints).

Status of Women

- The Committee continued its study on improving economic prospects for Canadian girls.
- The Minister for Status of Women, Rona Ambrose, will appear to discuss the main estimates on March 14th.

000151

Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

- The Committee continues its study of Innovative Transportation Technologies.
- The Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities will be invited to discuss Supplementary Estimates.

Veterans Affairs

- The Minister of Veterans Affairs, Steven Blaney, appeared before the committee to discuss the main estimates.
- The Committee resumed its review of the delivery of front-line health and wellbeing services for Canadian Veterans with Veterans Affairs officials and the Veterans Ombudsman.
- This week, the President of the Public Service Commission of Canada, Anne-Marie Robinson, will appear to discuss this study.

Parliamentary Committee Activities—Senate

The **Senate Aboriginal Peoples** met to discuss additions to reserves in relation to its study of the federal government's constitutional and legal responsibilities to Aboriginal Peoples. Jerome Berthelette and Frank Barrett appeared before the Committee. The Committee met with Justice Canada and AANDC officials to discuss Bill S-6, First Nations Elections Act. This week, the committee will consider a draft report.

The **Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee** will continue to examine research innovation efforts in the agricultural sector.

The **Senate Banking, Trade and Commerce Committee** continues its study on the five-year review of the Proceeds of Crime and Terrorist Financing Act.

The **Senate Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources Committee** continued its study on the current state and future of Canada's energy sector. This week, the Committee will hear from the Government of Nunavut.

The **Senate Fisheries and Oceans Committee** continues its study of the management of the grey seal population off Canada's east coast.

The **Senate Foreign Affairs and International Trade Committee** continues study on the establishment of a Charter of the Commonwealth and its implications for Canada.

The **Senate Human Rights Committee** continues its study on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security and hears from the International Development Research Centre and the United Nations Association in Canada.

The **Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee** meets this week with the Minister of Public Safety on Bill C-19, an Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act.

The **Senate National Finance Committee** will look at the main estimates for the departments of Human Resources, Public Works, Natural Resources, Canadian Heritage.

The **Senate Social Affairs, Science and Technology** continues its study on social inclusion and cohesion in Canada. The Committee will meet in camera to discuss future business.

The **Senate Transport and Communications Committee** will hear from City of Ottawa deputy mayor Steve Desroches on its study of issues related to the Canadian airline industry.

Legislative Developments — House of Commons

First Reading

- NDP MP Don Davies (Vancouver Kingsway, BC) introduced a Private Members' Bill — Bill C-404, An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (denial of temporary resident visa application) 000152

- NDP MP Don Davies (Vancouver Kingsway, BC) introduced a Private Members' Bill — Bill C-405, An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (appeals).
- NDP MP Françoise Boivin (Gatineau, QC) introduced a Private Members' Bill — Bill C-406, An Act respecting the mandate of Status of Women Canada.
- NDP MP Irene Mathyssen (London-Fanshawe, ON) introduced a Private Members' Bill — Bill C-407, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act (gender balanced representation).

Second Reading

- Bill C-31, Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act
- Bill C-267, Canada Water Preservation Act

Defeated at Second Reading

- Bill C-312, Democratic Representation Act

Referred to Committee

- Bill C-23, Canada–Jordan Economic Growth and Prosperity Act (Committee on International Trade)
- Bill C-293, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (vexatious complainants) (Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security)

Third Reading

- Bill C-278, Purple Day Act, was concurred in at report stage, debated at third reading and read a third time.

Legislative Developments — Senate

First Reading

- Bill C-290, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (sports betting),

Second Reading

- Bill S-8, Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act
- Bill S-204, National Strategy for Chronic Cerebrospinal Venous Insufficiency (CCSVI) Act

Referred to Committee

- Bill C-19, Ending the Long-gun Registry Act (Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs)
- Bill S-7, Combating Terrorism Act (Special Senate Committee on Certain Government Bills)

000153

Frappier, Julie

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: March 14, 2012 11:17 AM
To: Ferguson, Michael; Berthelette, Jerome; Reed, John
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Dupuis, Veronique; Duhamel, Liette
Subject: Question Period - References to F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program - Tuesday March 13, 2012

FYI, please find below the references to the F-35 program during QP yesterday.
Marie-Josée

41st PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

EDITED HANSARD

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

Oral Questions

National Defence

Ms. Christine Moore (Abitibi—Témiscamingue, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, today in committee, we learned that a Department of National Defence team is looking at alternatives to the **F-35**. The opposition has been asking about the Conservatives' apparent lack of a plan B for months. It seems that the Conservatives' plan for these planes is not going as well as the minister hoped it would.

Why did the government skip the tendering process for the country's largest military purchase ever, and why did it not have a plan B? Is the government just trying to distract the committee, or does it really have a team taking a serious look at alternatives to the **F-35** fiasco?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, our position has not changed. We remain committed to the **joint strike fighter** program. A budget has been allocated. A contract has not yet been signed. We will ensure that our air force has the aircraft necessary to do the job we ask it to do.

Mr. Matthew Kellway (Beaches—East York, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, enough; that story has run its course. Today, the associate minister has an opportunity to start again with the truth.

This morning in committee he acknowledged that there is a project planning team looking for alternatives to the **F-35**. Will the minister come clean with this House today and acknowledge that he is indeed backing out of the **F-35** program, or is he stuck with his speaking notes?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, we have been clear. When the current aircraft come to the end of their useful life cycle, we will ensure that our men and women in uniform have the best equipment necessary to do the important job we ask of them. However, as I stated, a contract has not been signed for replacement aircraft at this time.

National Defence

Hon. John McKay (Scarborough—Guildwood, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, this morning the Associate Minister of National Defence admitted that he had a road to Damascus experience upon his return from Washington. Apparently, we will no longer be getting 65 F-35s for \$75 million each.

Now that plan A has been reduced to “if and when”, will the minister see the light, open the competition and convert to a fair and transparent process?

Hon. Julian Fantino (Associate Minister of National Defence, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, we remain committed to the **joint strike fighter** program. A budget has been identified and allocated. We are working the issues through. We will ensure that the men and women in uniform have the best resources available to them to do their jobs.

We will, in essence, make sure that we do what is best for our men and women in uniform as well as Canadian taxpayers.

Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

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Gougeon, Marie-Josée

De: Therrien, Jocelyne
Envoyé: March 14, 2012 11:11 AM
À: Maxwell, Neil; Dubé, Louise
Cc: Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Objet: Senate Social Affairs Committee

Indicateur de suivi: Assurer un suivi
État de l'indicateur: Terminé

Neil et Louise :

The clerk of the committee called me yesterday to inform us that your hearing will focus on clinical trials only, and that you will be invited to speak about other aspects during subsequent hearings.

Perhaps you already knew this Louise by virtue of your conversation with the analyst but I wanted to pass along the info anyway. Marie-Josée will be scheduling a prep meeting with Mike (via Julie Frappier) soon.

Joc

Pages 157 to / à 158
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Pages 159 to / à 160
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Page 161

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Page 162

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Page 163

is under consultation

est sous consultation

**Pages 164 to / à 165
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Duhamel, Liette

From: Wheeler, Glenn
Sent: March 12, 2012 4:14 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Duhamel, Liette
Subject: RE: March 16th meeting with AG to prep for hearing scheduled for March 26th (NWT Status Report)

Hi Jocelyne,
No changes. Thanks.
Glenn

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 12, 2012 4:03 PM
To: Wheeler, Glenn
Cc: Duhamel, Liette
Subject: FW: March 16th meeting with AG to prep for hearing scheduled for March 26th (NWT Status Report)

Hi Glenn:

We will be providing Mike with a hard copy of the draft opening statement and hearing objectives. Have these objectives changed since you sent them to me on March 2nd? I just want to make sure that we provide him with the right material.

Tks
Joc

From: Wheeler, Glenn
Sent: March 2, 2012 11:56 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Berthelette, Jerome
Subject: March 16th meeting with AG to prep for hearing scheduled for March 26th (NWT Status Report)

Hi Jocelyne,

Our hearing with the Standing Committee on Government Operations is on March 26th. We've put together a draft opening statement and proposed hearing objectives. If Parliamentary Liaison could review these it would be most appreciated. Thanks.

Glenn

**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

MARCH 26, 2012 HEARING

**STATUS REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF CANADA TO THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The team proposes two objectives:

- To encourage audited organizations to develop implementation or action plans for the recommendations made in our original audits for which progress to date has been unsatisfactory or incomplete, as well as for new recommendations contained in the audit report; and
- To encourage the Government of the Northwest Territories to consider how to address the three barriers to more effective program management, which we identify in the preface to our audit report.

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 12, 2012 4:03 PM
To: Wheeler, Glenn
Cc: Duhamel, Liette
Subject: FW: March 16th meeting with AG to prep for hearing scheduled for March 26th (NWT Status Report)
Attachments: draft objectives for standing committee hearing in Yellowknife on March 26.docx

Hi Glenn:

We will be providing Mike with a hard copy of the draft opening statement and hearing objectives. Have these objectives changed since you sent them to me on March 2nd? I just want to make sure that we provide him with the right material.

Tks
Joc

From: Wheeler, Glenn
Sent: March 2, 2012 11:56 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Berthelette, Jerome
Subject: March 16th meeting with AG to prep for hearing scheduled for March 26th (NWT Status Report)

Hi Jocelyne,

Our hearing with the Standing Committee on Government Operations is on March 26th. We've put together a draft opening statement and proposed hearing objectives. If Parliamentary Liaison could review these it would be most appreciated. Thanks.

Glenn

Therrien, Jocelyne

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 9, 2012 2:42 PM
To: Maxwell, Neil
Cc: Dubé, Louise; Dupuis, Veronique; Montmarquet, Annie
Subject: RE: interested in a prep meeting with theAG ??

Thanks Neil. I believe we can find some time in Mike's calendar. I believe that he likes the idea of doing his share by participating in a prep meeting.

Joc

From: Maxwell, Neil
Sent: March 9, 2012 2:19 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Dubé, Louise; Dupuis, Veronique; Montmarquet, Annie
Subject: RE: interested in a prep meeting with theAG ??

Hi Joc,

Yes, it would be useful if Mike has the time. If not, even having one with you and perhaps another reviewer would be helpful.

Thanks, Neil

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 9, 2012 1:09 PM
To: Maxwell, Neil
Cc: Dubé, Louise; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: interested in a prep meeting with theAG ??

Hi Neil :

Are you interested in a prep meeting with the AG for your hearing before the Senate Social Affairs Committee ?

Joc

Pages 169 to / à 172
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Dupuis, Veronique
Sent: March 8, 2012 7:57 AM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: FW: liens pour transcriptions

Véronique Dupuis, M.Sc.

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From: Dupuis, Veronique
Sent: March 5, 2012 4:10 PM
To: Guyot, Francoise
Subject: liens pour transcriptions

Comme discuté:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/411/PACP/Evidence/EV5159182/PACPEV06-E.PDF>

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/411/PACP/Evidence/EV5270729/PACPEV16-E.PDF>

Véronique Dupuis, M.Sc.

Parliamentary Liaison Officer | Agente de Liaison avec le Parlement

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Page 174

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est sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: March 8, 2012 9:32 AM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG; LIST-PX; 'LIST-DX-EQUIVALENTS'
Cc: Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Parliamentary summary - Week of Feb 27 - Mar 2 / Sommaire parlementaire - semaine du 27 février au 2 mars
Attachments: PROXI-#718549-v1-Weekly parliamentary summary - Feb 29 - Mar 1 2012.DOCX

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

Liette Duhamel
Parliamentary Liaison Coordinator | Coordonnatrice, Liaison avec le Parlement
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Reports from Committees—House of Commons

- The Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs presented its Fifteenth Report, Response to the Chief Electoral Officer's Recommendations for Legislative Reforms Following the 40th General Election.
- The Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans presented its Second Report, Support for the Canadian Seal Industry.
- The Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities presented its Third Report, Federal Support Measures to Adoptive Parents.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

- Statutes of the Northwest Territories for the Sixth Session of the Sixteenth Legislative Assembly, pursuant to the Northwest Territories Act, R.S. 1985, c. N-27, sbs. 21(1).
- Copy of the Agreement on Social Security between Canada and the Federative Republic of Brazil, and Explanatory Memorandum, dated August 8, 2011
- Report by Export Development Canada on Canada Account Operations for the fiscal year 2010-2011
- Document entitled "Veterans' Right to Know Reasons for Decisions: A Matter of Procedural Fairness"
- Supplementary estimates (C) for the financial year ending March 31, 2013
- Main estimates for the financial year ending March 31, 2013,

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

- The Committee resumed its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development.
- The Hon. John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and senior officials will appear this week to discuss the Department's main estimates.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

The Committee resumed the statutory review of the Lobbying Act; and its study of the access to information dispute and the resulting court actions concerning CBC.

It was agreed that the Committee

- will consider proposed recommendations for the inclusion in the statutory review of the Lobbying Act;
- will undertake the study of the Main Estimates and invite the Information Commissioner, Privacy Commissioner, Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner and Lobbying Commissioner for one hour each.

Agriculture and Agri Food

- The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2 (Meeting Consumer Demands).
- This week, the committee will commence its study of the Food Supply Chain.

Citizenship and Immigration

- The Committee resumed its study "Standing on Guard for Thee: Ensuring that Canada's Immigration System is Secure" and will continue its study this week.

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Environment and Sustainable Development

- The Committee resumed its statutory review of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.
- The Minister of the Environment will be invited to appear no later than March 15, 2012 to discuss the Supplementary Estimates and the Main Estimates.
- The Committee will hear from witnesses from Environment Canada and Parks Canada in relation to its study to provide recommendations regarding the development of a National Conservation Plan.

Fisheries and Oceans

- The Committee resumed its study of closed containment salmon aquaculture.
- The Committee commenced its study on the support for the Canadian Seal Industry. It was agreed that because the evidence demonstrates that the Canadian seal hunt is conducted humanely and sustainably, the Committee reaffirms its support for the Canadian Seal Industry, and that, given the current state of the Canadian Sealing Industry, the Committee calls on the government to continue its efforts to open new markets and to protect and promote the sealing industry on the international stage, and that this motion be reported to the House.
- The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans will be invited to appear before the Committee in relation to the Estimates.

Foreign Affairs and International Development

- The Committee will meet to discuss the establishment of a "charter of the Commonwealth".

Government Operations and Estimates

- The Committee resumed its study of the process for considering the estimates and supply. Kevin Page (Parliamentary Budget Officer) appeared.
- The Committee will discuss the Supplementary Estimates (C) 2011-2012, on March 5th with officials from PCO, and on March 7th with officials from HRSD and Service Canada.

Health

- A draft report combining the study of chronic diseases related to aging and the study of health promotion and disease prevention will be prepared by the Committee analysts.
- The Committee will hold three meetings to study of Bill C-300, An Act respecting a Federal Framework for Suicide Prevention.
- The Committee commenced its study of neurological diseases and heard from the Public Health Agency of Canada.
- The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health will appear on March 13th to discuss the Supplementary Estimates and the Main Estimates.

Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

- The Committee resumed its study of Skills Development in Remote Rural Communities in an Era of Fiscal Restraint.
- It was agreed that in relation to its study "Fixing the Skills Gap", the Committee hear from witnesses from national organizations experiencing shortages in science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills; shortages in the digital skills field; shortages in the skilled trades. The Committee will travel across Canada in relation to this study.

International Trade

- The Committee resumed its study of the Trade Commissioner Service and its study of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with the European Union.
- The Minister of International Trade will appear on the main estimates on March 13th.

Justice and Human Rights

- The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-26, Citizen's arrest and the defences of property and persons Act.
- The Committee will study Bill C-299, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (kidnapping of young person).

National Defence

- The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces and continues to hear witnesses this week.

Natural Resources

- The Committee resumed its study on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada. This week, the committee meets in camera to discuss a draft report on that study.

Public Accounts

- The Committee resumed consideration of Chapter 2, G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund (Spring 2011 Report).
- It was agreed the Committee schedule its upcoming meetings as follows:
 - March 6, 2012, draft report on Chapter 1, Financial Management and Control and Risk Management (2011 Status Report) and draft report on Chapter 3, Reserve Force Pension Plan—National Defence (Spring 2011 Report);
 - March 8, 2012, consideration of draft reports;
 - March 13, 2012, study of Chapter 1, Canada's Economic Action Plan (Fall 2011 Report);
 - March 15, 2012, draft report on Chapter 2, G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund (Spring 2011 Report).

Public Safety and National Security

- The Committee resumed its study of drugs and alcohol in prisons; and its study of electronic monitoring.
- It was agreed that the Committee invite the Minister of Public Safety and senior officials to discuss the government's new anti-terrorism strategy, Building Resilience Against Terrorism: Canada's first Counter-terrorism Strategy; and that it hear from officials of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration concerning electronic monitoring.

Status of Women

- The Committee commenced its study of improving economic prospects for Canadian girls.
- This week, the committee meets in camera to discuss a draft report on abuse of older women. The Committee will also meet to discuss improving economic prospects for Canadian girls.
- It was agreed that the appearance by the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, on April 23, 2012, be televised.

Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

- The Committee commenced its study of Innovative Transportation Technologies and continues this week.

Veterans Affairs

- This week, the Committee will consider the Department's Main Estimates 2012-2013 and Supplementary Estimates (C) 2011-2012.

Parliamentary Committee Activities—Senate

The **Senate Aboriginal Peoples Committee** met to discuss Bill S-6, First Nations Elections Act. This week the Committee will meet to discuss additions to reserves in relation to its study of the federal government's constitutional and legal responsibilities to Aboriginal Peoples.

The **Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee** met to examine and report on research and innovation efforts in the agricultural sector. The Committee will continue this study this week.

The **Senate Banking, Trade and Commerce Committee** held several meetings on its review of the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act.

000178

The **Senate Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee** met to study the current state and future of Canada's energy sector (including alternative energy) and continues this study this week.

The **Senate Fisheries and Oceans Committee** met in camera to examine issues relating to the federal government's current and evolving policy framework for managing Canada's fisheries and oceans.

The **Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs** continued its study on Bill C-10, the Omnibus Crime Bill.

The **Senate National Finance Committee** met to study the potential reasons for price discrepancies between Canada and the US. This week the Committee will examine the expenditures set out in the Main Estimates with officials from Treasury Board.

The **Senate National Security and Defence Committee** continued its study of Canada's national security and defence policies, circumstances and capabilities

The **Senate Social Affairs, Science and Technology Committee** met in camera to consider a draft report on its study to examine the progress in implementing the 2004, 10-year plan to strengthen health care. This week, the Committee will continue its study on social including and cohesion in Canada.

The **Senate Transport and Communications Committee** continues its study on emerging issues related to the Canadian airline industry.

Legislative Developments — House of Commons

First Reading

- Bill C-401, An Act to amend the Investment Canada Act (committee members) (NDP MP Claude Gravelle (Nickel Belt, ON))
- Bill C-402, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (public transportation workers) NDP MP Peter Julian (Burnaby-New Westminster, BC)
- Bill C-403, An Act to amend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act (Civilian Investigation Service) NDP MP Nathan Cullen (Skeena-Bulkley Valley, BC)

Second Reading

- Bill C-7, Senate Reform Act
- Bill C-24, Canada–Panama Economic Growth and Prosperity Act
- Bill C-28, Financial Literacy Leader Act
- Bill C-293, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (vexatious complainants), continued to be debated at second reading.
- Bill S-206, World Autism Awareness Day Act
- Bill C-312, Democratic Representation Act, continued to be debated at second reading.

Defeated at Second Reading

- Bill C-280, National Strategy for Chronic Cerebrospinal Venous Insufficiency (CCSVI) Act
- Bill C-315, An Act to amend the Canada Labour Code (French language)

In Committee

- Bill C-23, Canada–Jordan Economic Growth and Prosperity Act (Citizenship and Immigration)
- Bill C-299, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (kidnapping of young person) (Justice and Human Rights)

Legislative Developments — Senate

First Reading

000179

- Bill S-8, Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act
- Bill C-290, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (sports betting)

Second Reading

- Bill S-7, Combating Terrorism Act
- Bill C-19, Ending the Long-gun Registry Act)

Third Reading

- Bill C-10, Safe Streets and Communities Act, was read a third time.

000180

**Pages 181 to / à 185
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Page 186

is under consultation

est sous consultation

**Pages 187 to / à 188
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Page 189

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 2, 2012 9:27 AM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: CESD perspective

Yes - on April 20th.

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: March 1, 2012 5:45 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: CESD perspective

Hi Jocelyne. Have we got a briefing set up with Mike for Scott's perspective for the spring report? I didn't notice one in my calendar, but maybe I missed it.
Susan

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 2, 2012 9:03 AM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: CESD perspective

I will check.

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: March 1, 2012 5:45 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: CESD perspective

Hi Jocelyne. Have we got a briefing set up with Mike for Scott's perspective for the spring report? I didn't notice one in my calendar, but maybe I missed it.
Susan

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: March 1, 2012 12:29 PM
To: Zlotnick, Marcy
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: RE: ATR study

That works for us Marcy.

Our witnesses will be:

Jerome Berthelette, Assistant Auditor General
Frank Barrett, Principal

Regards,

Jocelyne

From: Zlotnick, Marcy [<mailto:ZLOTNM@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: February 29, 2012 4:48 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: ATR study

Hello Jocelyne,

I've had updated instructions and would now like to invite your witnesses for Wed March 7 at 6:45 p.m. Please let me know. tx

Marcy Zlotnick

*B.A., LL.B.
Committee Clerk/Greffière de comité
Senate of Canada/Sénat du Canada
(613) 990-6080*

**Pages 193 to / à 194
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Gougeon, Marie-Josée

De: Therrien, Jocelyne
Envoyé: March 1, 2012 4:16 PM
À: Maxwell, Neil; Dubé, Louise
Cc: Ferguson, Michael; Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Objet: Senate Social Affairs Committee

Indicateur de suivi: Assurer un suivi
État de l'indicateur: Terminé

Hi !

The clerk has just contacted me regarding your chapter on pharmaceuticals. The committee is inviting you for a hearing on April 4th from 4:15-6:15 pm within the context of the committee's related study.

Health Canada will be asked to appear at the same time, as per your suggestion to the Chair when you met with him.

Please let me know if you are available for that date.

MERCI !

Jocelyne

Gougeon, Marie-Josée

Objet: Canceled: Hearing Senate Aboriginal Affairs Cttee on ATRs (additions to reserve)
Emplacement: TBD

Début: Wed 29/02/2012 6:45 PM
Fin: Wed 29/02/2012 8:45 PM
Afficher la disponibilité: Libre

Périodicité: (néant)

État de la réunion: Pas encore de réponse

Organisateur: Dupuis, Veronique
Participants obligatoires: Campbell, Ronnie; Berthelette, Jerome; Therrien, Jocelyne; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Wheeler, Susan; Desjardins, Ghislain; Barrett, Frank

Importance: Haute

When: February 29, 2012 6:45 PM-8:45 PM (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: TBD

Note: The GMT offset above does not reflect daylight saving time adjustments.

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 29, 2012 9:35 AM
To: Barr, Stuart; Sachs, Lyn
Cc: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: Preparing for parliamentary hearings or addressing the media

Stuart and Lynn:

Below you will find the message that went out to the AAGs that are responsible for audit portfolios. It offers a 2 part `training` session on preparing for parliamentary hearings and addressing the media. While you are not typically involved in hearings and in addressing the media, you may nonetheless be interested. The first Part is taking place on March 20th (afternoon) and the second Part is taking place on March 23d (morning). Please let me know if you would like to participate and we will add it to your calendars.

Jocelyne

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 15, 2012 5:39 PM
To: Berthelette, Jerome; Campbell, Ronnie; Cheng, Nancy; DeJong, Terrance; Laplante, Maurice; Lennox, Andrew; Loschiuk, Wendy; MacLellan, Clyde; Maxwell, Neil; McMahon, Marian; Ricard, Sylvain; Vaughan, Scott
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: Preparing for parliamentary hearings or addressing the media

Good afternoon:

Earlier this year, several of you signaled an interest in `training` that would help you with your appearances before committees and for those occasions when you might be responding to questions from the media - delivering clear messages, dealing with politically influenced questions, knowing how much detail to provide etc...

PL and Communications have combined efforts to provide you with a two-part program that we hope will find useful.

This is what we would propose.

Part I : one half-day

Vanessa AvRuskin (who gave the course Speaking as a Leader to members of Executive Committee in 2010), will lead a session designed to help you turn challenging, provocative or unexpected questions into an opportunity to communicate your ideas with clarity and conviction. There will be a short refresher on how to create an effective message, and an opportunity to practice responding to questions in an engaging and convincing fashion, while staying focused on your message. This session will also be useful for encounters with the media.

Part II: 2-3 hours

This part would focus more on the practical aspects of a hearing. It would basically include information on what you can expect during a typical hearing. We will include a discussion on practical DOs and DON'Ts on preparing for the hearing, answering questions, composure/attitude, and technical considerations (translation and microphones) . We plan on having at least one external speaker for this portion, someone who has a lot of experience and who can explain the expectations of members and provide helpful advice.

Timing:

000197

We are planning to deliver this program sometime in March. Each portion would take place on different days. We will aim for dates that are suitable for the majority of people who wish to participate.

Please note that PI is planning to provide a separate topical session on witnessing before a committee that will include information on the preparation of hearing objectives and the opening statement, and other practical advice on how one addresses committee members, dealing with the microphone and translation systems etc..... This session will be offered to PXs and DXs. This session will also possibly include an external speaker.

Please let us know by February 20th if you are interested in participating. We will work with your assistants to find the best possible dates.

N'hésitez pas à communiqué avec nous si vous avez des questions.

MERCI

000198

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Dupuis, Veronique
Sent: February 28, 2012 4:38 PM
To: Smith, Anne-Marie; Therrien, Jocelyne; Wheeler, Susan
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dugas Patry, Viviane
Subject: opening statement and objectives for March 1st prep (Senate Aboriginal Peoples)
Attachments: Hearing objectives - TLE Feb 29, 2012.docx; Opening Statement- Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples JBFB 27Feb.DOC

Hello,

Please find attached the draft opening statement and objectives for Thursday's prep meeting for the Senate Aboriginal Peoples Committee hearing on Additions to Reserves (hearing date to be determined).

Merci

Véronique

Véronique Dupuis, M.Sc.

Parliamentary Liaison Officer | Agente de Liaison avec le Parlement

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Help save paper - do you need to print this email?

Épargnez le papier - Avez-vous besoin d'imprimer ce courriel?

Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples

**February 29
6:45 PM
Location TBD**

March 2009– Chapter 4 – Treaty Land Entitlement Obligations – Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Witnesses: Jerome Berthelette, Frank Barrett

Other witnesses: NA

OBJECTIVES:

- To inform Committee members of the Office's work related Additions to Reserves and Treaty Land Entitlement
- To encourage the Committee to continue to focus on the progress made by AAND in converting land to reserves in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, consistent with the Crown's obligations under the Treaty Land Entitlement program.

000200

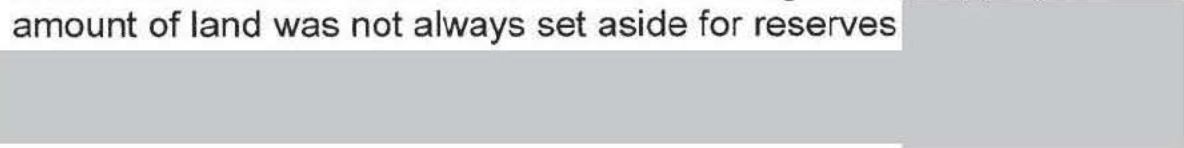
**OPENING STATEMENT OF JEROME E. BERTHELETTE,
ASSISTANT AUDITOR GENERAL OF CANADA**

**BEFORE THE STANDING SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES**

**MARCH 2009 STATUS REPORT, CHAPTER 4
TREATY LAND ENTITLEMENT OBLIGATIONS— s.21(1)(a)
INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA**

X MARCH 2012

s.21(1)(b)

1. Honourable Senators, thank you for this opportunity to discuss our Office's work related to Chapter 4 of our March 2009 Status Report—Treaty Land Entitlement Obligations. I am accompanied by Frank Barrett, the Principal responsible for the audit.
2. For a variety of reasons, First Nations are often entitled to more land than they currently have. To confirm and process the additional reserve land requirements, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada has developed an *Additions to Reserves/New Reserves Policy*, which sets out the policy requirements and administrative steps that need to be taken in order to make an addition to a reserve.
3. One type of addition to reserves arises from the settlement of Treaty Land Entitlements. When treaties were first signed the appropriate amount of land was not always set aside for reserves

4. Canada acknowledged its failure to meet these types of treaty obligations for land and, in the 1990's, signed treaty land entitlement agreements with many First Nations in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Consequently, First Nations that did not receive the proper amount of land under their treaties can obtain additional land and convert this land to reserve status.
5. In Manitoba and Saskatchewan are to be found some of the most impoverished First Nations in Canada. The land acquired under treaty

land entitlement agreements can have a significant impact on their social and economic development opportunities. These agreements outline the respective responsibilities for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, the provinces, and First Nations with respect to completing the process to convert the selected lands to reserves.

6. Our Office first examined the government's fulfillment of treaty land entitlement agreement obligations in 2005. That audit specifically examined Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's progress in converting land selected under these agreements to reserve status in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The audit also examined whether the Department was managing the conversion process in a way that was consistent with its legal obligations to First Nations. These obligations involved converting up to 1.4 million acres in Manitoba and up to 2.7 million acres in Saskatchewan to reserves, once they have been selected for conversion.
7. The 2005 audit found a number of deficiencies in the Department's management practices for meeting its obligations, such as inadequate planning and an absence of targets for land conversions. The audit found that these deficiencies limited the Department's progress in converting lands to reserve status, in particular in Manitoba. Our 2005 audit found that about 58 percent of the land selected by First Nations in Saskatchewan had been converted to reserve status, while only 12 percent of these lands had been converted in Manitoba. In that audit, we made eight recommendations, most of which focussed on the need for the Department to improve its management practices. The Department agreed with our recommendations and, in 2006, the Minister of Indian Affairs committed the Department to converting 150,000 acres of land in Manitoba to reserve status in each of the following four years.
8. Chapter 4 of our March 2009 Status Report examined the Department's progress in converting land to reserve status and in implementing the recommendations from the 2005 audit. We found that the Department had made significant progress in converting lands to reserve status.
9. We found that since 2005, the Department had converted over 315,000 acres to reserve status in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. This represented a 42 percent increase in land conversions in just three

years. In Manitoba alone, over 227,000 acres had been converted to reserves since the previous audit. The follow-up audit also found that the Department had made efforts to improve its communications with First Nations and to work more closely with them when planning conversions.

10. However, our 2009 audit also found that Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada had not made satisfactory progress toward implementing several of our recommendations for improving its management practices to meet its obligations to First Nations.
11. For instance, in Manitoba, the Department had not developed a plan that outlined how it would manage its operations to process outstanding selections within a reasonable period of time. It had also not tracked processing times, and could not demonstrate that these times had improved over the previous three years.
12. The continuing management weaknesses identified in our 2009 follow-up audit were of particular concern, as they related to treaty obligations that Canada incurred more than a century earlier. Our audit found that in Manitoba over 430 selections—close to 650,000 acres of land—remained to be converted. In Saskatchewan, over 700 selections, representing 451,000 acres, remained to be converted. Our audit concluded that without sustained management attention to correct the weaknesses we had identified, the Department risked being unable to sustain its progress in converting land to reserve status.
13. I should point out that this audit was substantially complete in September 2008. We have not conducted any follow-up audit work on this issue over the past three and one half years. In response to our audit recommendation, the Department has advised us that they have now implemented a National Additions-to-Reserve Tracking System. They also advised us that the system is now a mandatory requirement of the Additions-to-Reserve process and that the Department intends to monitor the progress of land conversion. We have not audited this system.
14. Mr. Chair, this concludes my opening statement. We would be pleased to answer your Committee's questions.

000203

Word count: 966 words

000204

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 24, 2012 9:36 AM
To: Berthelette, Jerome; Barrett, Frank
Cc: Dupuis, Veronique; Duhamel, Liette
Subject: ATRs - Senate Aboriginal Committee

FYI - We will get some information next week as to the probable date for this hearing. For now it has been deleted from your calendars. We still have the prep meeting with Mike on March 1st.

Jocelyne

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: February 23, 2012 3:34 PM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: FW: Communiqué et lettre

Hi Susan,

s.19(1)

Ghislain has given me a copy of the response that went to [REDACTED] I assume that this is what Clyde is talking about rather than a news release.

I've given him a copy of the letter that we sent to the Speaker of the House in October 2011.

Let me know if there is anything else.

Liette

From: Lavoie, Vanessa
Sent: February 23, 2012 11:46 AM
To: Dugas Patry, Viviane; Duhamel, Liette
Subject: Communiqué et lettre

Bonjour les filles,
J'espère que vous allez bien.

Serait-il possible de me procurer une copie de la lettre envoyé à « Speaker of the House » par rapport à l'annulation de certaines de nos vérifications (ou devrais-je dire audits) et une copie du communiqué de presse qui est sortie avec la liste de ces derniers.

Clyde à une rencontre avec M. Ferguson et deux personnes de l'extérieur du Bureau vendredi prochain (2 mars) et il aimerait que M. Ferguson et lui-même est ces documents en main.

Merci les filles.

Vanessa

**Pages 207 to / à 208
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

**Pages 209 to / à 210
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

**Pages 211 to / à 213
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 22, 2012 4:12 PM
To: Schwartz, Jo Ann
Cc: Salvail, Michelle; Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: RE: Opening Statement - Hearing in Nunavut - April 24 2012 - Procurement of Goods and Services

Hi Jo Ann:

This is perfect. We will coordinate the translation into French and Inuktitut.

I will speak with Jennifer Latham regarding the requirement for the Inuktitut translation so that she can line up the individual who does these translations.

Jocelyne

From: Schwartz, Jo Ann
Sent: February 22, 2012 3:10 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Salvail, Michelle
Subject: Opening Statement - Hearing in Nunavut - April 24 2012 - Procurement of Goods and Services

Hi Jocelyne,

We are scheduled to attend the briefing with the AG for the pre-hearing meeting on April 11 2012 at 3pm. The hearing is scheduled to take place in Iqaluit on April 24 2012.

We wanted to confirm the following:

- We will provide the Opening Statement to you a week in advance of the meeting with the AG (April 4th).
- Following the meeting we will make any required comments and provide you the revised version by April 13th.
- You will coordinate the translation of the Opening Statement (French and Inuktitut) in advance of the hearing. It will be required by April 20th for us to take to Iqaluit on April 23rd.

Can you please confirm our understanding. Please do not hesitate to contact Michelle or I if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,
Jo Ann

Jo Ann Schwartz
Director | Directrice
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
C.D. Howe Building, 240 Sparks Street, West Tower | Édifice C.D. Howe, 240, rue Sparks, tour ouest
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Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: February 21, 2012 3:42 PM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG; LIST-PX; LIST-DX-EQUIVALENTS
Cc: Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Parliamentary summary - Week of Feb 13-17 / Sommaire parlementaire - semaine du 13 au 17 février
Attachments: PROXI-#702569-v1-Weekly parliamentary summary - Feb 13-17 2012.DOCX

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY February 13-17, 2012

**Extrait de Publinet (Non disponible en français) / Excerpt from Publinet (not available in French)*

Legislative Developments—House of Commons

13 February 2012

- Bill C-291, An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (waiting period and maximum special benefits), was debated at second reading.
- Bill C-19, Ending the Long-gun Registry Act, was debated at third reading.
- Conservative MP Parm Gill (Brampton-Springdale, ON) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the National Defence Act (criminal organization recruitment). Bill C-394 was read a first time.
- Bill C-11, Copyright Modernization Act, was read a second time and referred to a House of Commons Legislative Committee on Bill C-11, following a recorded division.
- 14 February 2012
- NDP MP Jamie Nicholls (Vaudreuil-Soulanges, QC) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (transportation benefits). Bill C-395 was read a first time.
- Bill C-30, An Act to enact the Investigating and Preventing Criminal Electronic Communications Act and to amend the Criminal Code and others Acts, was introduced and read a first time.
- Bill S-5, Financial System Review Act, continued to be debated at second reading, was read a second time, and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance.
- Bill C-304, An Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act (protecting freedom), was debated at second reading.

15 February 2012

- NDP MP Claude Gravelle (Nickel Belt, ON) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act (Northern Ontario). Bill C-396 was read a first time.
- Bill C-19, Ending the Long-gun Registry Act, continued to be debated at third reading, and was read third time, following a recorded division.
- Bill C-309, An Act to amend the Criminal code (concealment of identity), was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human rights, following a recorded division.
- Bill C-300, Federal Framework for Suicide Prevention Act, was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Health, following a recorded division.
- Bill C-215, An Act to amend the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Act (deletion of deduction from annuity), was negated following a recorded division.
- Bill C-291, An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (waiting period and maximum special benefits), was negated following a recorded division.
- Bill C-304, An Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act (protecting freedom), was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, following a recorded division.
- Bill C-280, National Strategy for Chronic Cerebrospinal Venous Insufficiency (CCSVI) Act, continued to be debated at second reading.

16 February 2012

- NDP MP Randall Garrison (Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca, BC) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (golfing expenses). Bill C-397 was read a first time.
- NDP MP Hélène Laverdière (Laurier-Sainte-Marie, QC) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Patent Act (drugs for international humanitarian purposes). Bill C-398 was read a first time.

- NDP MP Jean-François Larose (Repentigny, QC) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (volunteers). Bill C-399 was read a first time.
- NDP MP Marie-Claude Morin (Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot, QC) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to ensure secure, adequate, accessible and affordable housing for Canadians. Bill C-400 was read a first time.
- Bill C-31, An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, the Balanced Refugee Reform Act, the Marine Transportation Security Act and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Act, was introduced and read a first time.
- Bill C-350, An Act to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act (accountability of offenders), was debated at second reading.

17 February 2012

- Bill C-32, An Act to amend the Civil Marriage Act, was introduced and read a first time.
- Bill C-315, An Act to amend the Canada Labour Code (French language), continue to be debated at second reading.

Legislative Developments—Senate

15 February 2012

- Bill S-7, Combating Terrorism Act, was introduced and read a first time.

16 February 2012

- Bill C-19, Ending the Long-gun Registry Act, was read a first time.

Reports from Committees—House of Commons

13 February 2012

- The Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities presented its Second Report, Bill C-316, An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (incarceration).

15 February 2012

- The Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities presented its First Report, Study on Transit in Canada.

17 February 2012

- The Standing Committee on Health presented its Fourth Report, Bill C-313, An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (non-corrective cosmetic contact lenses), with amendments.
- The Standing Committee on Health presented its Fifth Report, C-278, An Act respecting a day to increase public awareness about epilepsy (Purple Day Act), with amendments.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

15 February 2012

- Report on the administration and operation of the Canada Health Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canada Health Act, R.S. 1985, c. C-6, s. 23
- Response of the government, pursuant to Standing Order 109, to the First Report of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans, "Report on the Snow Crab Industry in the Atlantic Provinces and in Quebec" (Sessional Paper No. 8510-411-8), presented to the House on Wednesday, October 19, 2011.

990217

- Report on the Annual Summary of Steel Import Permit Data for the year 2011, pursuant to the Export and Import Permits Act, R.S. 1985, c. E-19, sbs. 5.1(3).

16 February 2012

- The 17th annual report of the Canadian Artists and Producers Professional Relations Tribunal for the period of April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.
- Report of the Judge Advocate General to the Minister of National Defence on the administration of military justice in the Canadian Forces for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010, pursuant to the National Defence Act, R.S. 1985, c. N-5, s. 9.3(3).

17 February 2012

- Summaries of the Corporate Plan and the Capital and Operating Budgets for the period 2011-2012 to 2015-2016 of the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Report on the administration of the Canada Small Business Financing Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canada Small Business Financing Act, S.C. 1998, c. 36, ss. 18 and 20.
- Report of the Commissioner of Competition for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010, pursuant to the Competition Act, R.S. 1985, c. C-34, s. 127
- List of Commissions issued for the year 2011, pursuant to the Public Officers Act, R.S. 1985, c. P-31, s. 4.
- Report of the Canadian Wheat Board, together with the Auditors' Report, for the crop year ended July 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canadian Wheat Board Act, R.S. 1985, c. C-24, sbs. 9(2).

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

14 and 16 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

16 February 2012

The Committee resumed the statutory review of the Lobbying Act.

The Committee agreed to the following schedule:

- February 28 - drafting instructions to the analysts for the statutory review of the Lobbying Act and consideration of the draft report on the study of the access to information dispute and the resulting court actions concerning CBC
- March 1 - Mr. Andrew Saxton (Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury Board) and senior departmental officials for the first hour on the statutory review of the Lobbying Act. And, in the second hour, resumption of the consideration of the draft report on the study of the access to information dispute and the resulting court actions concerning CBC.

14 February 2012

The Committee resumed the statutory review of the Lobbying Act.

Agriculture and Agri-Food

15 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2 (Meeting Consumer Demands).

000218

13 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2 (Marketing and Trade). Steve Tierney and Fred Gorrell (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada), Paul Mayers (CFIA), Kathleen Sullivan and Richard Wansbutter (Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance) appeared as witnesses.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that at the completion of the hearings on growing forward 2, the Committee commence a study of the food supply chain, which would be divided into a number of components;
- that the Committee consider the following topics for an eventual study: food standards (food origin, food content, food safety, biosafety, etc.) and red tape reduction at the farm level.
- that the Committee commence its study of the food supply chain by inviting witnesses who can give an overview of the subject.

Canadian Heritage

14 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017. Denise Amyot (Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation), Marc Mayer (National Gallery of Canada) and Guy Vadeboncoeur (Stewart Museum) made statements and answered questions.

Citizenship and Immigration

16 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study "Standing on Guard for Thee: Ensuring that Canada's Immigration System is Secure". In the first hour, witnesses included Tom Venner (CSIS), Todd G. Shean and Geoffrey Leckey (CBSA); followed by Wendy Loschiuk, Suzanne Therrien and Gordon Stock (OAG), Jennifer Stoddart and Andrew Patrick (Office of the Privacy Commissioner) in the second hour.

14 February 2012

The Committee commenced its study "Standing on Guard for Thee: Ensuring that Canada's Immigration System is Secure. Claudette Deschênes (CIC) and Pierre Sabourin (CBSA) made statements and, with the other witnesses, answered questions.

Environment and Sustainable Development

14 February 2012

The Committee resumed its statutory review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act; and resumed consideration of a draft report.

It was agreed that the meeting scheduled on Thursday, February 16, 2012, be cancelled.

Finance

16 February 2012

The Committee commenced consideration of Bill C-25, An Act relating to pooled registered pension plans and making related amendments to other Acts. The Hon. Ted Menzies, Minister of State, Finance made a statement and answered questions. Other witnesses included Diane Lafleur, Lynn Hemmings and Leah Anderson from Finance Canada; John Grace from OSFI, and Carol Taraschuk from Justice Canada.

14 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of tax incentives for charitable donations.

000219

Fisheries and Oceans

13 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of closed containment salmon aquaculture.

Foreign Affairs and International Development

15 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on the role of the private sector in achieving Canada's international development interests.

The Committee proceeded to a briefing on the ongoing negotiations regarding a Canada-UE strategic partnership agreement.

13 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on the role of the private sector in achieving Canada's international development interests.

Government Operations

15 February 2012

The Committee met *in camera* and resumed its study of the process for considering the estimates and supply. Witnesses from TBS were invited — Bill Matthews, Sally Thornton, Kenneth Wheat, and Marcia Santiago. It was agreed that Julie Samson, of TBS be authorized to attend this in camera meeting

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the clerk organize a working meal with a delegation of the United Kingdom Public Administration Committee on February 28, 2012;
- that the Committee invite the Parliamentary Budget Officer, and Sahir Khan from that same office, to appear at its meeting of February 27, 2012, on the review of the process for considering the estimates and supply;
- that the Committee invite the Auditor General and relevant officials to appear at its meeting of February 29, 2012, on the review of the process for considering the estimates and supply.
- that the Committee meet on March 5 and 7, 2012, for the study of the Supplementary Estimates (C) 2011-12.
- that the Committee invite Jean Thivierge of the Valcom Group to appear in the following weeks respecting its study of the new entity Shared Services Canada;
- that the Committee set aside its meetings of March 12, and 14, 2012, for the review of the process for considering the estimates and supply.

13 February 2012

John McCallum gave notice of the following motion that the Committee conduct a study into allegations by the Defence Employees Union regarding contracting practices at Defence Construction Canada, and that the Committee report its findings to the House.

The Committee resumed its study of the new entity Shared Services Canada. John Chang (PricewaterhouseCoopers) made a statement and, Ivan Milam answered questions.

Health

16 February 2012

000220

The Committee commenced consideration of Bill C-278, An Act respecting a day to increase public awareness about epilepsy.

14 February 2012

The Committee commenced consideration of Bill C-313, An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (non-corrective cosmetic contact lenses).

Human resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

15 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of Federal Support Measures to Adoptive Parents.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the Committee undertake a study entitled: "Fixing the Skills Gap: Addressing Existing Labour Shortages in High Demand Occupations", which will identify and report on the skills shortages that are currently being experienced in the Canadian labour market, as well as those that will be in future demand;
- that on March 7 and 12, 2012, the Committee hear from government witnesses from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada and Industry Canada in relation to that study;
- that on March 14 and 26, 28 and April 23, 2012, the Committee hear from witnesses from national organizations experiencing science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills shortages in relation to the study.

13 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of A Framework for Success: Practical Recommendations to Further Shorten the Foreign Qualification Recognition Process.

International Trade

14 and 16 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with the European Union. The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

National Defence

14 and 16 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces.

Natural Resources

14 and 16 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on resource development in Northern Canada.

Procedure and House Affairs

16 February 2012

- The Committee commenced its study of the review of the Standing Orders.
- The Committee attended a briefing session from the Library of Parliament analysts.

14 February 2012

The Committee commenced its study of Broadcasting of the Proceedings of the House. Audrey O'Brien (Clerk, HOC) made a statement and, with Louis Bard (Chief Information Officer, HOC), answered questions.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business.

Public Accounts

000221

16 February 2012

The Committee proceeded to a briefing on the Estimates process with TBS officials.

It was agreed that the Committee resume consideration of the draft report on Chapter 2, G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund, of the Spring 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada at its meeting on February 28, 2012.

14 February 2012

The Committee resumed consideration of Chapter 2, G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund, of the Spring 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada.

Public Safety and National Security

16 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of electronic monitoring. The Commissioner of CBSA, Don Head, appeared with Peter Hill and Susan Kramer to answer questions.

Status of Women

15 February 2012

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the Committee invite the Commissioner of the RCMP to provide testimony concerning the role and challenges of women employed by the RCMP;
- that the Committee adopt the following work plan for the study of improving economic prospects for Canadian girls — meetings of February 29, 2012 and March 7, 2012 should be devoted to briefings with senior officials from Status of Women Canada; meetings with other witnesses to begin the week of March 12, 2012;
- that on March 5, 2012 the Committee start consideration of the draft report on the study of abuse of older women.

Veterans Affairs

14 February 2012

The Committee resumed its review of the delivery of front-line health and wellbeing services for Canadian Veterans. Veterans Affairs Canada officials appeared as witnesses.

000222

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 21, 2012 9:14 AM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Cc: Desjardins, Ghislain; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: RE: Tabling day schedule - 3 April

Looks good to me. s.19(1)

My cell phone number is [REDACTED]

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: February 20, 2012 4:34 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Tabling day schedule - 3 April

Hi Jocelyne,

When you get a minute, let me know what you think of the attached schedule – especially the time of the news conference (we have to book the National press theatre).

Thanks.

Susan

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: February 20, 2012 9:34 AM
To: LIST-Internet; O'Shaughnessy, Shailagh
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne; Wheeler, Susan; Desjardins, Ghislain
Subject: Notice to the Speaker
Attachments: PROXI-#701215-v2-2012 04 Report - Notice to Speaker attachment F.DOCX; PROXI-#700927-v1-2012 04 Report - Notice to Speaker - Letter to HOC.DOC; PROXI-#700450-v1-2012 04 Report - Notice to Speaker attachment E.DOCX

Good morning,

The notice to the Speaker was delivered last Friday. A copy is attached.

Could you please post on our Web site?

Thanks

Liette Duhamel
Parliamentary Liaison Coordinator | Coordonnatrice, Liaison avec le Parlement
Parliamentary Liaison | Liaison avec le Parlement
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
C.D. Howe Building, 240 Sparks Street, West Tower | Édifice C.D. Howe, 240, rue Sparks, tour ouest
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G6
liette.duhamel@oag-bvg.gc.ca
Telephone | Téléphone 613-952-0213 (6306)
Facsimile | Télécopieur 613-957-0474
Teletypewriter | Télérimeur 613-954-8042

16 February 2012

The Honourable Andrew Scheer, M.P.
Speaker of the House of Commons
House of Commons
Room 224-N, Centre Block
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to subsection 7(4) of the *Auditor General Act*, I am writing to advise you that on 3 April 2012—47 days from the date of this notice—I am planning to make available to you an additional report for tabling in the House, as provided for in subsection 7(1) of the Act.

The attachment to this letter outlines the subject matter of the Report.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Ferguson, FCA

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Audrey O'Brien
Members of Parliament

000225

Le 16 février 2012

L'honorable Andrew Scheer, député
Président de la Chambre des communes
Chambre des communes
Pièce 224-N, Édifice du Centre
Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0A6

Monsieur le Président,

Conformément au paragraphe 7(4) de la *Loi sur le vérificateur général*, je vous annonce que le 3 avril 2012 — soit 47 jours après le présent préavis — je compte vous remettre un rapport supplémentaire pour dépôt à la Chambre, comme le prévoit le paragraphe 7(1) de la Loi.

L'objet du Rapport est présenté dans une pièce jointe.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Le vérificateur général du Canada,

Michael Ferguson, FCA

Pièce jointe

c.c. Madame Audrey O'Brien
Députés

000226

Report of the Auditor General of Canada

Spring 2012

Chapter 1, Border Controls on Commercial Imports. This chapter examines how the Canada Border Services Agency works with other federal organizations to implement controls at the border for imported consumer goods that have been identified as a risk to the health or safety of Canadians. The audit scope included a range of selected products and the federal organizations responsible for controlling their entry into Canada—the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Health Canada, Natural Resources Canada, and Transport Canada.

Chapter 2, Replacing Canada's Fighter Jets. The audit examined whether National Defence, Industry Canada, and Public Works and Government Services Canada exercised due diligence in managing Canada's participation in the Joint Strike Fighter Program, established to design, develop and manufacture the F-35 Lightning II aircraft. The audit also looked at the federal decision-making process to acquire the F-35 as a replacement for the CF-18.

Chapter 3, Interest-Bearing Debt. The audit examined how Finance Canada develops strategies to manage the government's market debt. The chapter looks at the Department's risk management practices and at how it monitors and reports on the performance of the debt-funding strategy. The audit also examined how Finance Canada and the Treasury Board Secretariat report information about charges on the interest-bearing debt as well as the budgetary impact of the public sector pension plan liabilities.

Chapter 4, Non-Filers and Non-Registrants—Canada Revenue Agency. The chapter discusses the Agency's Non-Filer/Non-Registrant program. The audit looked at what the Agency has done to address non-compliance with requirements for filing tax returns and registering for GST/HST. The audit focused on how the Agency identifies non-filers and non-registrants and how it plans, monitors, and reports on its actions to improve compliance.

Chapter 5, Oversight of Civil Aviation—Transport Canada. The audit examined whether Transport Canada has managed the risks associated with overseeing its civil aviation safety program. It focused on how Transport Canada planned and conducted its surveillance of air carriers, aircraft maintenance organizations, and airports in the National Airport System. The audit also looked at whether Canada had a regulatory framework that was responsive to emerging safety risks.

Chapter 6, Special Examinations of Crown Corporations—2011. The chapter presents the main points of special examination reports of Crown corporations that were issued to the corporations' boards of directors between 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2011 and that have subsequently been made public. The corporations examined were the Canadian Dairy Commission, Canadian Race Relations Foundation, and Public Sector Pension Investment Board.

Rapport du vérificateur général du Canada

Printemps 2012

Chapitre 1, Les contrôles frontaliers visant les importations commerciales. Ce chapitre traite de la façon dont l'Agence des services frontaliers du Canada collabore avec d'autres organisations fédérales en vue de mettre en œuvre les contrôles à la frontière visant les biens de consommation importés qui sont considérés comme posant un risque pour la santé ou la sécurité de la population canadienne. L'audit a porté sur un ensemble de produits donnés et sur les organisations fédérales chargées d'en contrôler l'entrée au pays, soit l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments, Ressources naturelles Canada, Santé Canada et Transports Canada.

Chapitre 2, Le remplacement des avions de combat du Canada. L'audit visait à déterminer si la Défense nationale, Industrie Canada et Travaux publics et Services gouvernementaux Canada ont exercé une diligence raisonnable en gérant la participation du Canada au programme d'avions de combat interarmées. Ce programme a été établi en vue de concevoir, de mettre au point et de fabriquer l'avion de combat F-35 Lightning II. L'audit a aussi visé le processus décisionnel fédéral relatif au remplacement des CF-18 par des F-35.

Chapitre 3, La dette portant intérêt. L'audit s'est penché sur la façon dont le ministère des Finances Canada élabore des stratégies pour gérer la dette canadienne contractée sur les marchés. Le chapitre porte sur les pratiques de gestion des risques du Ministère et sur les moyens qu'il utilise pour surveiller sa stratégie de financement de la dette et pour présenter de l'information à cet égard. L'audit a également porté sur la façon dont le ministère des Finances Canada et le Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor du Canada communiquent l'information sur les frais d'intérêt de la dette et sur l'impact budgétaire des obligations liées aux régimes de retraite de la fonction publique.

Chapitre 4, Les non-déclarants et les non-inscrits — Agence du revenu du Canada. Ce chapitre traite du programme des non-déclarants et des non-inscrits de l'Agence du revenu du Canada. L'audit a porté sur les mesures prises par l'Agence pour réduire le non-respect des exigences de production de déclaration de revenus et d'inscription aux fins de la TPS/TVH. L'audit visait à déterminer comment l'Agence repère les non-déclarants et les non-inscrits, comment elle planifie et surveille les mesures prises pour améliorer l'observation des règles fiscales, et comment elle fait rapport à cet égard.

Chapitre 5, La surveillance de l'aviation civile — Transports Canada. L'audit visait à déterminer si Transports Canada a géré les risques associés à la surveillance de son programme de sécurité pour l'aviation civile. Le chapitre porte essentiellement sur les mesures prises par le Ministère pour planifier et exercer sa surveillance à l'égard des transporteurs aériens, des entreprises de maintenance aéronautique et des aéroports qui font partie du Réseau national d'aéroports. L'audit visait également à déterminer si le Canada possède un cadre réglementaire adapté aux nouveaux risques en matière de sécurité.

Chapitre 6, Les examens spéciaux des sociétés d'État — 2011. Le chapitre reprend les points saillants des rapports d'examen spécial des sociétés d'État qui ont été présentés au conseil d'administration de chaque société examinée entre le 1^{er} janvier et le 31 décembre 2011, puis rendus publics. Les sociétés ayant fait l'objet d'un examen spécial sont la Commission canadienne du lait, la Fondation canadienne des relations raciales et l'Office d'investissement des pensions du secteur public.

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 16, 2012 10:23 AM
To: Ricard, Sylvain; Laplante, Maurice
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: RE: Preparing for parliamentary hearings or addressing the media

Sylvain:

Je vais m'informer auprès de Susan pour la partie I.

Pour ce qui est de la partie II, je vous assure que le tout sera très bilingue.

Jocelyne

From: Ricard, Sylvain
Sent: February 16, 2012 9:09 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne; Berthelette, Jerome; Campbell, Ronnie; Cheng, Nancy; DeJong, Terrance; Laplante, Maurice; Lennox, Andrew; Loschiuk, Wendy; MacLellan, Clyde; Maxwell, Neil; McMahon, Marian; Vaughan, Scott
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: RE: Preparing for parliamentary hearings or addressing the media

Jocelyne

Maurice et moi sommes intéressés – toutefois nous nous demandions si il est possible d'avoir cette formation en français - ou possiblement est-ce que les formateurs peuvent répondre en français à nos questions ?
merci

De : Therrien, Jocelyne
Envoyé : February 15, 2012 5:39 PM
À : Berthelette, Jerome; Campbell, Ronnie; Cheng, Nancy; DeJong, Terrance; Laplante, Maurice; Lennox, Andrew; Loschiuk, Wendy; MacLellan, Clyde; Maxwell, Neil; McMahon, Marian; Ricard, Sylvain; Vaughan, Scott
Cc : Wheeler, Susan; Dupuis, Veronique
Objet : Preparing for parliamentary hearings or addressing the media

Good afternoon:

Earlier this year, several of you signaled an interest in `training` that would help you with your appearances before committees and for those occasions when you might be responding to questions from the media - delivering clear messages, dealing with politically influenced questions, knowing how much detail to provide etc...

PL and Communications have combined efforts to provide you with a two-part program that we hope will find useful.

This is what we would propose.

Part I : one half-day

Vanessa AvRuskin (who gave the course Speaking as a Leader to members of Executive Committee in 2010), will lead a session designed to help you turn challenging, provocative or unexpected questions into an opportunity to communicate your ideas with clarity and conviction. There will be a short refresher on how to create an effective message, and an opportunity to practice responding to questions in an engaging and convincing fashion, while staying focused on your message. This session will also be useful for encounters with the media.

000229

Part II: 2-3 hours

This part would focus more on the practical aspects of a hearing. It would basically include information on what you can expect during a typical hearing. We will include a discussion on practical DOs and DON'Ts on preparing for the hearing, answering questions, composure/attitude, and technical considerations (translation and microphones) . We plan on having at least one external speaker for this portion, someone who has a lot of experience and who can explain the expectations of members and provide helpful advice.

Timing:

We are planning to deliver this program sometime in March. Each portion would take place on different days. We will aim for dates that are suitable for the majority of people who wish to participate.

Please note that PI is planning to provide a separate topical session on witnessing before a committee that will include information on the preparation of hearing objectives and the opening statement, and other practical advice on how one addresses committee members, dealing with the microphone and translation systems etc..... This session will be offered to PXs and DXs. This session will also possibly include an external speaker.

Please let us know by February 20th if you are interested in participating. We will work with your assistants to find the best possible dates.

N'hésitez pas à communiqué avec nous si vous avez des questions.

MERCI

000230

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is under consultation

est sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 15, 2012 4:51 PM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: Preparing for parliamentary hearings or addressing the media

Susan, what do you think?

Earlier this year, several of you signaled an interest in 'training' that would help you with your appearances before committees and for those occasions when you might be responding to questions from the media - delivering clear messages, dealing with politically influenced questions, knowing how much detail to provide etc...

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Timing:

We are planning to deliver this program sometime in March. Each portion would take place on different days. We will aim for dates that are suitable for the majority of people who wish to participate.

Please note that PI is planning to provide a separate topical session on witnessing before a committee that will include information on the preparation of hearing objectives and the opening statement, and other practical advice on how one addresses committee members, dealing with the microphone and translation systems etc..... This session will be offered to PXs and DXs. This session will also possibly include an external speaker.

Please let us know by (date) if you are interested and if you have any suggestions for Part II that we may not have thought of.

**Pages 233 to / à 234
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: February 14, 2012 2:27 PM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG; LIST-PX; LIST-DX-EQUIVALENTS
Subject: Parliamentary summary - Week of Feb 6-10 / Sommaire parlementaire - semaine du 6 au 10 février
Attachments: PROXI-#699745-v1-Weekly parliamentary summary - Feb 6-10 2012.docx

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY February 6 - 10, 2012

**Extrait de Publinet (Non disponible en français) / Excerpt from Publinet (not available in French)*

Legislative Developments—House of Commons

6 February 2012

- Bill C-377, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (requirements for labour organizations), was debated at second reading.
- Bill C-19, Ending the Long-gun Registry Act, was debated at report stage.
- NDP MP Françoise Boivin (Gatineau, QC) introduced a Prime Member's Bill entitled, An Act to implement the recommendations of the Pay Equity Task Force. Bill C-389 was read a first time.

7 February 2012

- Bill C-19, Ending the Long-gun Registry Act, continued to be debated at report stage and was concurred in, following a recorded division.

8 February 2012

- Bill C-11, Copyright Modernization Act, continued to be debated at second reading.
- Bill C-306, An Act to amend the Parliament of Canada Act (political affiliation), was negatived following a recorded division.
- Bill C-309, An Act to amend the Criminal code (concealment of identity), continued to be debated at second reading.

9 February 2012

- NDP MP Pat Martin (Winnipeg Centre, MB) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Pest Control Products Act (prohibition of the use of chemical pesticides for certain purposes). Bill C-390 was read a first time.
- NDP MP Pat Martin (Winnipeg Centre, MB) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Currency Act and the Royal Canadian Mint Act (calling in of the cent). Bill C-391 was read a first time.
- NDP MP Pat Martin (Winnipeg Centre, MB) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to provide for the establishment of national standards for labour market training, apprenticeship and certification. Bill C-392 was read a first time.
- NDP MP Peter Julian (Burnaby-New Westminster, BC) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Canada Transportation Act (railway noise and vibration control). Bill C-393 was read a first time.
- Bill C-300, Federal Framework for Suicide Prevention Act, continued to be debated at second reading.

10 February 2012

- Bill C-11, Copyright Modernization Act, continued to be debated at second reading.
- Bill C-215, An Act to amend the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Act (deletion of deduction from annuity), continued to be debated at second reading.

000236

Legislative Developments—Senate

8 February 2012

- Bill S-205, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (carbon offset tax credit), continued to be debated at second reading.
- Bill S-207, An Act to amend the Interpretation Act (non-derogation of aboriginal and treaty rights), was debated at second reading.

Reports from Committees—House of Commons

6 February 2012

- The Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage presented its Second Report, Bill C-288, An Act respecting the National Flag of Canada.
- The Standing Committee on Public Accounts presented its Second Report, Chapter 4, Programs for First Nations on Reserves, of the 2011 Status Report of the Auditor General of Canada.

7 February 2012

- The Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs presented its Fourteenth Report, Changes to Membership of Standing and Standing Joint Committees, the report was concurred in.

8 February 2012

- The Standing Committee on Public Accounts presented its Third Report, Chapter 3, Internal Audit, of the 2011 Status Report of the Auditor General of Canada.

9 February 2012

- The Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates presented its Fourth Report, Certificate of Nomination of Anne-Marie Robinson to the Position of President of the Public Service Commission.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

6 February 2012

- Report on the Operation of the Canadian Multiculturalism Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canadian Multiculturalism Act, R.S. 1985, c. 24 (4th Supp.), s. 8
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for the period 2011-2012 to 2015-2016 and of the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2011-2012 of the Blue Water Bridge Authority, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).

7 February 2012

- Copy of the Regulations amending the Special Economic Measures (Syria) Regulations (P.C. 2012-8), pursuant to the Special Economic Measures Act, S.C. 1992, c. 17, sbs. 7(1)
- Copy of the Regulations amending the Special Economic Measures (Iran) Regulations (P.C. 2012-10), pursuant to the Special Economic Measures Act, S.C. 1992, c. 17, sbs. 7(1).
- Report on the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act, S.C. 1988, c. 28, ss. 231 and 238

000237

- Report on the Canada-Newfoundland Atlantic Accord Implementation Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canada-Newfoundland Atlantic Accord Implementation Act, S.C. 1987, c. 3, s. 226.

8 February 2012

- Report on the administration of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999, S.C. 1999, c. 33, sbs. 342(1).

10 February 2012

- Report of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3)
- Report of the Staff of the Non-Public Funds, Canadian Forces for the year 2010, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3)
- Report of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(5).
- Report of the Communications Security Establishment for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the National Energy Board for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the National Film Board of Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3)
- Report of the National Research Council of Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3)
- Report of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the Office of the Auditor General of Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the Statistical Survey Operations for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the Employment Equity in the Federal Public Service for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(1).
- Report of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the Canada Revenue Agency for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the Parks Canada Agency for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3)
- Report of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).
- Report of National Defence (Canadian Forces) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).

000238

- Report of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the year 2010, pursuant to the Employment Equity Act, S.C. 1995, c. 44, sbs. 21(3).

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

7 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

7 February 2012

The Committee resumed the statutory review of the Lobbying Act.

Agriculture and Agri-Food

8 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2 (Marketing and Trade).

6 February 2012

- The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2 (Marketing and Trade).
- The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed that in the context of its study of Growing Forward 2, the Committee hold 2-3 meetings on the theme of "Meeting Consumer Demands".

Citizenship and Immigration

7 and 9 February 2012

- The Committee resumed its study of the immigration application backlogs in light of the Action Plan for Faster Immigration.
- The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

Environment and Sustainable Development

7 and 9 February 2012

- The Committee resumed its statutory review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.
- The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

Finance

7 and 9 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of tax incentives for charitable donations.

Fisheries and Oceans

6 February 2012

- The Committee resumed its study of closed containment salmon aquaculture. Witnesses from Fisheries and Oceans Canada appeared. Guy Beaupré (Director General, Aquaculture Management Directorate) made a statement and, with the other witnesses, answered questions.
- The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business.

Foreign Affairs and International Development

8 February 2012

The Committee proceeded to a briefing on the Situation in Syria. Witnesses from Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada appeared. Barbara Martin (Director General, Middle East and Maghreb Bureau) made a statement and, with Robin Dubeau (Director General, Emergency Management Bureau), answered questions.

Government Operations

8 February 2012

- The Committee commenced consideration of the certificate of nomination of Anne-Marie Robinson to the position of President of the Public Service which was referred to the Committee on Friday, February 3, 2012. Anne-Marie Robinson made a statement and answered questions.
- It was agreed that the nomination of Anne-Marie Robinson as President of the Public Service Commission be concurred in, and that the Chair report it to the House.

6 February 2012

- The Committee resumed its study of the new entity Shared Services Canada.

Health

9 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of health promotion and disease prevention.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the Committee undertake a study of Technological Innovation, including best practices, in health care in Canada; that it hold 10 meetings on this study to hear from witnesses; and that it report its findings to the House of Commons.
- that on February 16, 2012, the Committee study Bill C-278, An Act respecting a day to increase public awareness about epilepsy.
- That the Committee extend its study of neurological diseases by one meeting.

7 February 2012

- The Committee resumed its study of health promotion and disease prevention.
- The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed that on February 14, 2012, the Committee study Bill C-313, An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (non-corrective cosmetic contact lenses).

Human resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

6 February 2012

The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-316, An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (incarceration). Louis Beauséjour (Associate Assistant Deputy Minister, Skills and Employment Branch, HRSDC) appeared as a witness.

8 February 2012

The Committee resumed consideration of Bill C-316, An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (incarceration); and commenced its clause-by-clause study of the Bill.

000240

Industry, Science and Technology

9 February 2012

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed that the Committee undertake a study on the Investment Canada Act and present a report to the House.

International Trade

7 and 9 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with the European Union. The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

National Defence

9 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces. LGen Richard J. Evraire and Col Brian S. MacDonald from the Conference of Defence Associations made statements and answered questions. Steven Staples (Rideau Institute) and David Macdonald (Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives) made statements and answered questions.

7 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces. John MacLennan (Union of National Defence Employees) made a statement and, with Tim McGrath (Consultant), answered questions. Jerome Berthelette (OAG) made a statement and answered questions.

Natural Resources

7 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada.

9 February 2012

- The Committee resumed its study on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada.
- It was agreed that the Committee meet on February 28, 2012, to commence consideration of a draft report in relation to its study on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada; and, that the final report be tabled to the House.

Procedure and House Affairs

7 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada entitled "Responding to Changing Needs – Recommendations from the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada Following the 40th General Election". The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

Public Accounts

7 and 9 February 2012

The Committee resumed consideration of Chapter 2, G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund, of the Spring 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada referred to the Committee. The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

000241

Public Safety and National Security

7 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of drugs and alcohol in prisons; the Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

9 February 2012

The Committee commenced its study of electronic monitoring. James Bonta (-Public Safety Canada) appeared as a witness.

Status of Women

8 February 2012

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure meet on February 15, 2012 to consider and approve the work plan for the study of improving economic prospects for Canadian girls;
- that Senior Officials from Status of Women Canada be invited to appear before the Committee on February 29, 2012 to provide a briefing on the Agency's plans and initiatives as they relate to the study of improving economic prospects for Canadian girls.

The Committee resumed its study of abuse of older women. It was agreed that the Committee start the consideration of the draft report at the meeting scheduled for February 27, 2012.

Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

7 and 9 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of the National Public Transit Strategy.

Veterans Affairs

9 February 2012

The Committee resumed its review of the delivery of front-line health and wellbeing services for Canadian Veterans.

7 February 2012

The Committee resumed its review of the delivery of front-line health and wellbeing services for Canadian Veterans. Witnesses from National Defence appeared. RAdm Andrew Smith made a statement and, with BGen Fred Bigelow and Col Gerry Blais, answered questions.

000242

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is under consultation

est sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: February 9, 2012 9:54 AM
To: Kingston, Linda; Wheeler, Susan
Cc: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Tr: Examining Public Finances Booklet

Hi Linda, I am transferring your question to Susan.
MJ

De : Kingston, Linda
Envoyé : Thursday, February 09, 2012 09:43 AM
À : Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Objet : RE: Examining Public Finances Booklet

Hi Marie-Josée,

Quick question: Should the signature on the letter accompanying the booklet be "Mike" or "Michael" Ferguson? (It currently says "Mike" but we've been instructed to use "Michael" for official documents. Just wanted to confirm.)

Thanks,

Linda

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: February 8, 2012 11:02 AM
To: Kingston, Linda
Subject: Re: Examining Public Finances Booklet

Hi Linda.

Ok to take out subheadings from table of contents and yes we wanted to shade section 5 in the table of contents to put emphasis on it.

Thanks.

Marie-Josée

De : Kingston, Linda
Envoyé : Wednesday, February 08, 2012 10:56 AM
À : Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Objet : Examining Public Finances Booklet

Hi Marie-Josée,

I left you a phone message, but it might be easier to see what I mean in writing.

The subheadings in section 2 (Government Expenditures...) appear in the table of contents of your booklet, but the subheadings for sections 3 and 5 do not. We need to make these consistent. We think the best approach is to remove the subheadings from the table of contents. (Otherwise, the heading for section 5, which I understand is the most important, will occur quite low on the page.)

My other question is that there was shading on section 5 in the table of contents. Is that something that you had requested or wanted to retain to highlight the importance of the section?

000244

Please let me know what you think. If you are not concerned about these issues, that's fine. I just wanted to run the changes by you.

Thanks,

Linda

000245

Gougeon, Marie-Josée

De: Therrien, Jocelyne
Envoyé: February 9, 2012 9:02 AM
À: anne-marie.hayden@priv.gc.ca; Edith Lachapelle; jane.dunlop@elections.ca; marianne.goodwin@oic-ci.gc.ca; natalie.hall@ocl-cal.gc.ca; robin.cantin@ocol-clo.gc.ca
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Objet: FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Good morning everyone:

For your information, the following is an extract of a letter recently sent to Senator Day as Chair of the Senate National Finance Committee. The letter was sent in response to several questions posed in relation to our office during a hearing last week when the AG appeared before the committee to introduce himself.

The AG was asked about the panel and what agents of Parliament could do to increase their accountability, in reference to the letter sent to the Chairs of our respective committees last year. What follows is our written answer to the committee. Please call me if you have any questions.

Cheers !

Jocelyne

Jocelyne Therrien

Senior Principal, Parliamentary and International Relations | Première directrice principale, Relations parlementaires et internationales

Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

C.D. Howe Building, 240 Sparks Street, West Tower | Édifice C.D. Howe, 240, rue Sparks, tour ouest
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Telephone | Téléphone 613-952-0213 (4352)

Facsimile | Télécopieur 613-957-0474

Teletypewriter | Téléimprimeur 613-954-8042

Panel of Parliamentarians on the funding and oversight of Agents of Parliament

The Panel was introduced on a pilot basis in 2005 for the funding and oversight of Agents of Parliament. Along with several committees of the House of Commons and Senate, these Agents had expressed concerns that independence from government may be compromised by Treasury Board determining the amount of funding available to them. An independent review of the pilot project in 2008 concluded that it had "achieved the key objective of reducing the perception of conflict of interest that was inherent in the pre-existing process."

The Panel itself has not reconvened since the beginning of the 41st Parliament. In the past, the Speaker of the House of Commons chaired the Panel, and several MPs have participated as members of the Panel.

We believe that as a matter of principle, our level of funding must be determined in an objective manner, either by the Panel or through some other mechanism that protects our financial independence.

000246

In response to a question about how accountability of Agents of Parliament can be enhanced, there are several options available to parliamentarians. They could, for example, examine each agent's estimates, performance reports, and plans and priorities. They could invite us to appear before committees and discuss the results of our internal audit reports. They could ask us about the qualifications of the external members of our audit committee and review the reports of the committee.

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 8, 2012 12:50 PM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: contact list - comms units for agents of Parliament

He sent me the contact list of the individuals in the departments that are affected by our proposal on the financial audits. I am looking for the list for the AGENTS of PARLIAMENT and he tells me that you probably have a consolidated list.

If not, I will simply go to the individual websites.

Tks

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: February 8, 2012 12:48 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Re: contact list - comms units for agents of Parliament

Ghislain sent it to you at about 9:30

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld / Envoyé de mon terminal mobile

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 11:11 AM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: contact list - comms units for agents of Parliament

Do you have a contact list for the communications people of the agents of parliament ?

I need to notify them of the letter we sent to the Senate National Finance Committee, as per Mike's request.

tk

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 8, 2012 2:11 PM
To: Maxwell, Neil
Cc: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: Training for AAGs

Neil:

Just so you know, I see this proposal as only one part of the training. I also envision a few other elements for e.g. bringing in a few seasoned folks from the hill to speak with the AAGs, a short sessions on practical do's and don't's etc....

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: February 8, 2012 1:28 PM
To: Maxwell, Neil; Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Training for AAGs

Hi, I'm forwarding you the attached proposals from Vanessa AvRuskin for sessions for AAGs aimed at helping them handle questions from parliamentarians. She's customized her approach to suit our needs.

I asked for a proposal that could fit into a half day, thinking that it's harder to book people for a full day. The training can either be 1 half-day session, or 2 half-day sessions. The costs are [REDACTED] plus her travel expenses from Toronto.

s.20(1)(c)

Vanessa would welcome any suggestions we have to adapting the course to our needs.

s.20(1)(d)

Let me know what you think.

Thanks.
Susan

From: Vanessa AvRuskin [<mailto:vavruskin@TheHumphreyGroup.com>]
Sent: February 8, 2012 12:48 PM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: Proposal

Hi Susan,

Thanks for waiting.

s.20(1)(c)

I've attached four proposals.

s.20(1)(d)

1. A nine session executive speaking program. The cost is [REDACTED] plus expenses.
2. A five session executive speaking program. The cost is [REDACTED] plus expenses.
3. A 1-Part half day course. The cost is [REDACTED] plus expenses.
4. A 2-Part half day course. The cost is [REDACTED] plus expenses.

The courses are highly customized however I kept the executive program more generic by not inserting Mr. Ferguson's name. If you'd like me to change that just let me know. In fact, if there are any changes just tell me and make the adjustments.

Until soon,
Vanessa

Duhamel, Liette

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: February 7, 2012 3:16 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: FW: Letter from the Auditor General

FYI

From: Finance [<mailto:NFFN@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: February 7, 2012 3:17 PM
To: Duhamel, Liette
Subject: RE: Letter from the Auditor General

Thanks very much! We scanned the hard copy and have distributed it to all committee members. We greatly appreciate the timely follow-up.

Best,

Jodi Turner
Committee Clerk/Greffière de comité
The Senate/Le Sénat
Tel: 613-990-4995 Fax: 613-947-2104
turnej@sen.parl.gc.ca
Toll Free/Sans frais: 1-800-267-7362

From: Duhamel, Liette [<mailto:Liette.Duhamel@oag-bvg.gc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 3:04 PM
To: jodi.turner@sen.parl.gc.ca; Finance
Subject: Letter from the Auditor General

Good afternoon,

You will find attached a copy of a letter from Michael Ferguson, Auditor General of Canada, in response to questions posed by Senators at the hearing of January 31, 2012. A copy was delivered to Senator Day and to your office earlier today.

Liette Duhamel
Parliamentary Liaison Coordinator | Coordonnatrice, Liaison avec le Parlement
Parliamentary Liaison | Liaison avec le Parlement
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
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Auditor General of Canada
Vérificateur général du Canada

6 February 2012

The Honourable Joseph A. Day, Senator
Chair
Standing Senate Committee on National Finance
Senate of Canada
Victoria Building, Room 801
Ottawa, Ontario K4A 0A4

Dear Senator Day:

This letter is in response to questions posed by Senators during my appearance before the Standing Committee on National Finance on 31 January 2012.

Let me start by assuring you that all suggestions for audits that were provided during the meeting have been duly noted. I can certainly appreciate that parliamentarians have individual concerns that they feel need to be subjected to a performance audit. I believe that the topics presented do merit further consideration.

Panel of Parliamentarians on the funding and oversight of Agents of Parliament

The Panel was introduced on a pilot basis in 2005 for the funding and oversight of Agents of Parliament. Along with several committees of the House of Commons and Senate, these Agents had expressed concerns that independence from government may be compromised by Treasury Board determining the amount of funding available to them. An independent review of the pilot project in 2008 concluded that it had "achieved the key objective of reducing the perception of conflict of interest that was inherent in the pre-existing process."

The Panel itself has not reconvened since the beginning of the 41st Parliament. In the past, the Speaker of the House of Commons chaired the Panel, and several MPs have participated as members of the Panel.

We believe that as a matter of principle, our level of funding must be determined in an objective manner, either by the Panel or through some other mechanism that protects our financial independence.

In response to a question about how accountability of Agents of Parliament can be enhanced, there are several options available to parliamentarians. They could, for example, examine each agent's estimates, performance reports, and plans and priorities. They could invite us to appear before committees and discuss the results of our internal audit reports. They could ask us about the qualifications of the external members of our audit committee and review the reports of the committee.

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Selection of audit topics

It may be helpful to provide further explanation as to how we select topics for our performance audits. The Office begins by conducting an analysis for each sector of the federal system, for example, human resource management, law and order, and health of Canadians. This process involves reviewing many government documents—including departmental performance reports and plans, risk analyses, sustainable development strategies, key internal audit and program evaluations—as well as any existing parliamentary committee reports. We also conduct interviews with departmental officials, external stakeholders, and non-governmental experts, to determine what they consider to be areas of greatest risk for the activities or programs under review. We look for program activities that run the risk of not meeting their objectives.

This information is juxtaposed against our resources and choices are made for a three-year period. While modifications can be and are made to the list, there must be a convincing argument that, as a whole, selected topics represent the most relevant areas to audit.

Information that we receive from parliamentarians feeds into this process. A request from a parliamentary committee will necessarily carry more weight than individual requests because it represents a broader constituency. Assuming the area in question falls within our mandate and that we have the resources to conduct a cost-efficient review, serious consideration will be given to conducting an audit in response to a formal request from a committee.

Follow-up on previous audits

We determine follow-up on previous audit findings based on the severity of the problem and the probability that it will remain. Typically, we do not follow up until two years have passed to allow enough time for the department(s) involved to implement our recommendations. Every two years, we provide parliamentarians with a Status Report on selected topics. Our most recent Status Report was tabled last June.

Parliamentary committees play a very valuable role in this process by inviting departmental and Office officials for hearings, and by issuing reports with their own recommendations. The action plans in which departments describe how they will implement our recommendations can provide a concrete basis for discussion.

Working with our provincial counterparts

During the hearing, I was asked about whether we collaborate with our provincial counterparts on areas of common interest. One example of such collaboration is a report we published in 2010 entitled *Electronic Health Records in Canada—An Overview of Federal and Provincial Audit Reports*. This was the culmination of work that was harmonized with six of our provincial counterparts, based on audit work we had conducted in our respective jurisdictions.

Operating review of the Office

I have attached to this letter an earlier response to your committee clerk regarding a question I received about certain financial audits that we propose to no longer conduct. We are currently working with government officials for the necessary changes to existing orders in council and

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legislation to allow us to cease this work. We have determined that there is little risk attached to us no longer performing this work.

I do hope that this information provides clarification to some of the questions asked during our meeting. I look forward to working closely with the committee on the review of our audit findings.

Please feel free to contact me directly or Jocelyne Therrien if further information is required.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Ferguson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Ferguson, FCA
Auditor General of Canada

Enclosure

c.c.: Ms. Jodi Turner, Clerk

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Operating Review of the Office

The proposed reductions predominantly affect our financial audit practice. The changes we are proposing will focus our financial audits on what we believe to be the most important accounting information and the areas of greatest risk. The changes will also enable us to achieve greater consistency in our audit effort across federal organizations. For example, consistent with the government's decision not to proceed with audited departmental financial statements, we propose discontinuing our audits of the financial statements of department-like organizations. Those organizations with significant public funds would still be subject to examination as part of our annual audit of Summary Financial Statements of the Government of Canada.

Below is the list of organizations for which we propose that an annual financial audit no longer be required.

- Public Service Commission of Canada
- National Research Council of Canada
- Financial Consumer Agency of Canada
- Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions
- National Battlefields Commission
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
- Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Canadian Transportation Accident Investigation and Safety Board
- National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy
- Canadian Polar Commission
- Northern Pipeline Agency
- Parks Canada Agency
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- Yukon Surface Rights Board
- Exchange Fund Account
- Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

Another proposed change, outside of our financial audit practice, is to discontinue our assessments of the performance reports of the Parks Canada Agency, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and the Canada Revenue Agency. When these agencies were created, between the late 1990s and 2003, as a new type of government organization, it was seen as valuable to have an independent review of the fairness and reliability of their performance information. We believe Parliament requires high-quality performance information from all federal organizations and therefore we will continue to include performance reporting as a topic for consideration in our performance audit practice.



Le 6 février 2012

L'honorable Joseph A. Day, sénateur
Président
Comité permanent des finances nationales
Sénat du Canada
Édifice Victoria, pièce 801
Ottawa (Ontario) K4A 0A4

Monsieur le Sénateur,

Vous trouverez ci-dessous des réponses aux questions posées par les sénateurs lors de ma comparution devant le Comité permanent des finances nationales le 31 janvier dernier.

Permettez-moi d'abord de vous assurer que toutes les suggestions d'audit formulées lors de la réunion seront dûment prises en compte. Je me rends bien compte que les parlementaires ont des préoccupations personnelles qui, selon eux, devraient faire l'objet d'un audit de performance. Je pense que les sujets proposés méritent d'être examinés davantage.

Groupe consultatif sur le financement et la surveillance des agents du Parlement

Ce groupe consultatif a été chargé, dans le cadre d'un projet pilote en 2005, du financement et de la surveillance des agents du Parlement. Tout comme divers comités de la Chambre des communes et du Sénat, les agents du Parlement s'étaient inquiétés du fait que leur indépendance à l'égard du gouvernement puisse être compromise par le processus de détermination de leur budget par le Conseil du Trésor. Un examen indépendant du projet pilote mené en 2008 avait conclu ce qui suit : « il a atteint l'objectif clé qui était de diminuer l'impression de conflits d'intérêts qui existait avec le processus ».

Le comité ne s'est pas réuni depuis le début de la 41^e législature. Par le passé, le Président de la Chambre des communes présidait le comité et divers députés y ont siégé.

Nous croyons, par principe, que notre niveau de financement doit être déterminé de manière objective soit par le comité ou au moyen d'un autre mécanisme qui protégerait notre indépendance financière.

Par ailleurs, je tiens à préciser, en réponse à une question qui a été formulée, que divers moyens s'offrent aux parlementaires pour améliorer la reddition de comptes des agents du Parlement. Ils pourraient notamment examiner le budget des dépenses de chaque haut fonctionnaire, leurs rapports sur le rendement et leurs plans et priorités. Ils pourraient aussi nous inviter à des réunions des comités pour discuter des résultats de nos rapports d'audit interne. Ils pourraient nous poser des questions sur les compétences des membres externes de nos comités d'audit et examiner les rapports de ces comités.

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Sélection des sujets d'audit

Il serait peut-être utile de vous donner des précisions sur les modalités de sélection des sujets de nos audits de performance. Le Bureau analyse d'abord chacun des secteurs du système fédéral, par exemple la gestion des ressources humaines, l'ordre public et la santé publique. Cette analyse comporte l'examen de divers documents établis par le gouvernement, notamment les rapports ministériels sur le rendement et les plans, les analyses de risques, les stratégies de développement durable, les rapports d'audit interne et les évaluations de programmes clés, de même que tous les rapports publiés par des comités parlementaires. Nous menons aussi des entretiens avec des fonctionnaires ministériels, des parties prenantes externes et des experts du secteur privé afin de déterminer les secteurs qui, selon eux, posent les plus grands risques pour les activités ou les programmes examinés. Nous cherchons ensuite les activités de programmes qui risquent de ne pas atteindre leurs objectifs.

Ces informations sont examinées à la lumière des ressources qui sont disponibles et des sujets d'audit sont retenus pour une période de trois ans. Des modifications peuvent être apportées à cette liste et le sont s'il peut être démontré de façon convaincante que les sujets retenus, pris globalement, représentent les secteurs qui auraient le plus grand intérêt à être audités.

Les informations communiquées par les parlementaires sont prises en compte au cours de la sélection. Une demande formulée par un comité parlementaire a nécessairement plus de poids que les demandes individuelles, car le comité représente une plus grande partie de la population. Dans l'hypothèse où le sujet proposé relève de notre mandat et que nous avons les ressources nécessaires pour procéder à un examen efficace par rapport à son coût, nous envisagerons sérieusement la possibilité de réaliser un audit en réponse à une demande formulée officiellement par un comité.

Suivis d'audits antérieurs

Nous faisons un suivi de constatations formulées lors d'audits antérieurs si la gravité du problème et la probabilité qu'il persiste le justifient. Généralement, nous attendons deux ans avant de faire un suivi afin de donner suffisamment de temps aux ministères concernés pour mettre en œuvre nos recommandations. Tous les deux ans, nous remettons aux parlementaires un rapport *Le Point* portant sur des sujets donnés. Le plus récent rapport *Le Point* a été présenté en juin dernier.

Les comités parlementaires jouent un rôle fondamental dans le processus de suivi en invitant les fonctionnaires des ministères et le Bureau à participer à des audiences et en publiant des rapports contenant leurs propres recommandations. Les plans d'action dans lesquels les ministères décrivent les mesures qu'ils prendront pour donner suite à nos recommandations peuvent constituer un point de départ concret pour mener des discussions.

Collaboration avec nos homologues provinciaux

Au cours des audiences, on m'a demandé si nous collaborions avec nos homologues provinciaux dans des secteurs présentant des intérêts communs. Un rapport publié en 2010 qui s'intitule *Les dossiers de santé électroniques au Canada — Survol des rapports de vérification fédéral et provinciaux* constitue un exemple de cette collaboration. Le rapport est

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l'aboutissement de l'harmonisation des travaux d'audit menés par notre Bureau et six de nos homologues provinciaux dans nos champs de compétence respectifs.

Examen fonctionnel au sein du Bureau

Vous trouverez ci-joint la réponse, qui a déjà été envoyée à la greffière de votre comité, à une question qui m'avait été posée sur certains audits d'états financiers que nous nous proposons de cesser de réaliser. Nous collaborons actuellement avec des fonctionnaires en vue d'apporter les modifications nécessaires aux décrets et aux textes de loi qui nous permettront de ne plus avoir à réaliser ces audits. Nous avons conclu que le risque associé à la non-réalisation de ces travaux d'audit était faible.

J'espère que les informations fournies répondront à certaines des questions posées au cours de notre réunion. Je suis heureux de pouvoir collaborer étroitement avec votre comité lors de l'examen de nos constatations d'audit.

N'hésitez pas à communiquer avec Jocelyne Therrien ou directement avec moi si vous avez besoin de plus amples renseignements à ce sujet.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Sénateur, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Le vérificateur général du Canada,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Ferguson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Ferguson, FCA

Pièce jointe

c.c. Madame Jodi Turner, greffière

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Examen fonctionnel au sein du Bureau

Les réductions proposées touchent principalement la pratique des audits d'états financiers. Les modifications que nous proposons nous permettront de centrer nos audits des états financiers sur les informations financières les plus importantes à nos yeux, et sur les secteurs où les risques sont les plus importants. Ces modifications nous permettront aussi de conférer une cohérence accrue à nos travaux d'audit à l'échelle des organisations fédérales. Par exemple, vu la décision du gouvernement de ne pas mettre à exécution le projet des états financiers ministériels audités, nous proposons de ne plus auditer les états financiers d'organismes de type ministériel. Les organismes bénéficiant de fonds publics considérables continueront de faire l'objet d'un examen dans le cadre de notre audit annuel des états financiers résumés du gouvernement du Canada.

La liste qui suit présente les organisations pour lesquelles nous proposons de ne plus faire d'audits des états financiers :

- Commission de la fonction publique du Canada
- Conseil national de recherches du Canada
- Agence de la consommation en matière financière du Canada
- Bureau du surintendant des institutions financières
- Commission des champs de bataille nationaux
- Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada
- Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie
- Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada
- Bureau de la sécurité des transports du Canada
- Table ronde sur l'environnement et l'économie
- Commission Canadienne des affaires polaires
- Administration du pipe-line du Nord
- Agences Parcs Canada
- Agence Canadienne des inspections des aliments
- Office des droits de surface du Yukon
- Compte du fonds des changes
- Centre canadien d'hygiène et de sécurité du travail

Une autre modification que nous proposons, outre celles qui visent la pratique des audits financiers, vise à éliminer l'évaluation des rapports sur le rendement de l'Agence Parcs Canada, de l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments et de l'Agence du revenu du Canada. Lorsque ces types d'organisme gouvernemental ont vu le jour entre la fin des années 1990 et 2003, on avait jugé à l'époque qu'il serait utile de mener un examen indépendant de la fidélité et de la fiabilité de leurs informations sur le rendement. Selon nous, le Parlement exige des informations sur le rendement de grande qualité de tous les organismes fédéraux, et nous continuerons d'auditer ces informations dans le cadre de nos pratiques d'audit de performance.

Duhamel, Liette

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: February 7, 2012 3:04 PM
To: 'jodi.turner@sen.parl.gc.ca'; 'nffn@sen.parl.gc.ca'
Subject: Letter from the Auditor General
Attachments: PROXI-#698368-v1-Letter to SC on National Finance - Follow-up to Hearing Jan 31 2012 E.PDF; PROXI-#698369-v1-Letter to SC on National Finance - Follow-up to Hearing Jan 31 2012 F.PDF

Good afternoon,

You will find attached a copy of a letter from Michael Ferguson, Auditor General of Canada, in response to questions posed by Senators at the hearing of January 31, 2012. A copy was delivered to Senator Day and to your office earlier today.

Liette Duhamel
Parliamentary Liaison Coordinator | Coordonnatrice, Liaison avec le Parlement
Parliamentary Liaison | Liaison avec le Parlement
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
C.D. Howe Building, 240 Sparks Street, West Tower | Édifice C.D. Howe, 240, rue Sparks, tour ouest
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G6
liette.duhamel@oag-bvg.gc.ca
Telephone | Téléphone 613-952-0213 (6306)
Facsimile | Télécopieur 613-957-0474
Teletypewriter | Téléimprimeur 613-954-8042

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: February 7, 2012 3:41 PM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG; LIST-PX; LIST-DX-EQUIVALENTS
Subject: Parliamentary summary - Week of Jan30-Feb3 / Sommaire parlementaire - semaine du 30 janvier au 3 février
Attachments: PROXI-#697651-v1-Weekly parliamentary summary - Jan30 - Feb3 2012.docx

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY January 30 – February 3, 2012

**Extrait de Publnet (Non disponible en français) / Excerpt from Publnet (not available in French)*

Legislative Developments—House of Commons

30 January 2012

- Bill C-25, Pooled Registered Pension Plans Act, was debated at second reading.
- Bill C-288, National Flag of Canada Act, continued to be debated at second reading.

31 January 2012

- NDP MP Peter Julian (Burnaby-New Westminster, BC) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to establish Leif Erikson Day. Bill C-387, was read a first time.
- Bill S-5, Financial System Review Act, was read a first time.
- Bill C-25, Pooled Registered Pension Plans Act, continued to be debated at second reading.
- Bill C-313, An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (non-corrective cosmetic contact lenses), continued to be debated at second reading, was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Health.

1 February 2012

- Bill C-314, Breast Density Awareness Act, was reported back from the Standing Committee on Health.
- Bill C-25, Pooled Registered Pension Plans Act, continued to be debated at second reading, read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, following a recorded division.
- Bill C-288, National Flag of Canada Act, was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage, following a recorded division.
- Bill C-306, An Act to amend the Parliament of Canada Act (political affiliation), was debated at second reading.

2 February 2012

- Conservative MP James Lunney (Nanaimo-Alberni, BC) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled, An Act to establish a National Vitamin D Day. Bill C-388 was read a first time.
- Bill C-217, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (mischief relating to war memorials), continued to be debated at second reading, was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Human Rights and Justice.

3 February 2012

- Bill S-5, Financial System Review Act, was debated at second reading.
- Bill C-278, Purple Day Act, continued to be debated at second reading, was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Health.

Legislative Developments—Senate

31 January 2012

- Bill S-208, An Act to amend the Patent Act and the Food and Drugs Act (drugs for international humanitarian purposes), was introduced and read a first time.

000253

2 February 2012

- Bill S-6, First Nations Elections Act, continued to be debated at second reading, was read a second time and referred to the Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples.

Reports from Committees—House of Commons

31 January 2012

- The Thirteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, Changes to Membership of Standing and Standing Joint Committees, was presented and concurred in.

1 February 2012

- The Standing Committee on Health presented its Third Report, Bill C-314, An Act respecting the awareness of screening among women with dense breast tissue, without amendment.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

The following were deposited with the the Clerk of the House on **Wednesday, December 21, 2011**:

- Report of operations under the Export and Import Permits Act for the year 2009, pursuant to the Export and Import Permits Act, R.S. 1985, c. E-19, s. 27.
- Report of operations under the Export and Import Permits Act for the year 2010, pursuant to the Export and Import Permits Act, R.S. 1985, c. E-19, s. 27.
- Report of the five-year review of the Public Service Modernization Act, pursuant to the Public Service Employment Act, S.C. 2003, c. 22, ss. 12 "136" and 13 and the Public Service Labour Relations Act, S.C. 2003, c. 22, s. 2 "252"
- Code of Conduct for the Public Sector, pursuant to the Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act, S.C. 2005, c. 46, sbs. 5(4).
- Amendments to the Management Plan for Red Bay National Historic Site of Canada, pursuant to the Parks Canada Agency Act, S.C. 1998, c. 31, sbs. 32(2).

The following were deposited with the the Clerk of the House on **Wednesday, January 18, 2012**:

- Reports of the Auditor General of Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Access to Information Act and to the Privacy Act, R.S. 1985, c. A-1 and P-21, sbs. 72(2).
- Copy of the Regulations amending the Special Economic Measures (Syria) Regulations (P.C. 2011-1727), pursuant to the Special Economic Measures Act, S.C. 1992, c. 17, sbs. 7(1).
- Copy of the Regulations amending the Freezing Assets of Corrupt Foreign Officials (Tunisia and Egypt) Regulations (P.C. 2011-1666), pursuant to the Freezing Assets of Corrupt Foreign Officials Act, S.C. 2011, c. 10, s. 7.
- Report on the operations under the Canada Water Act for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canada Water Act, R.S. 1985, c. C-11, s. 38.
- Comprehensive report for 2011 of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec, pursuant to the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the regions of Quebec Act, S.C. 2005, c. 26, ss. 17(3) and (4).
- Report of the administration of the Firearms Act for the year 2010, pursuant to the Firearms Act, S.C. 1995, c. 39, sbs. 93(2).

31 January 2012

- The Five-Year Review and Report to Parliament of the Board of Governors of the Canada School of Public Service for the years 2006 to 2011, pursuant to the Canada School of Public Service Act, S.C. 1991, c. 16, sbs. 19(4) was deposited with the Clerk.

000254

1 February 2012

The following were deposited with the Clerk and laid upon the table:

- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2012-2016 and of the Capital Budget for 2012 of the Royal Canadian Mint, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Report of the National Arts Centre, together with the Auditor General's Report, for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2011, pursuant to the National Arts Centre Act, R.S. 1985, c. N-3, sbs. 17(2).
- Report on the Statutes Repeal Act for the year 2012, pursuant to the Statutes Repeal Act, S.C. 2008, c. 20, s. 2.

3 February 2012

- The regulations that mandate the special economic measures, Syria, as announced on Jan. 25, as well as the regulations amending special economic measures, Iran, as announced on Jan. 31, 2012, was presented.
- The West Bank First Nations Self-Government Agreement annual report on implementation for the years 2008-10, was presented.
- The 2009-10 annual report on the state of Inuit culture and society in the Nunavut settlement area, was presented.
- Certificate of Appointment of a combined biography on the proposed appointment of Anne-Marie Robinson as president of the Commission of the civil service, was presented and referred to the Standing Committee Government Operations and Estimates.

The following was deposited with the Clerk and laid upon the table:

- Report of the Northern Pipeline Agency, together with the Auditor General's Report, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Northern Pipeline Act, R.S. 1985, c. N-26, ss. 13 and 14.
- Orders in Council approving certain appointments made by the Governor General in Council, pursuant to Standing Order 110(1).

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed the statutory review of the Lobbying Act.

Agriculture and Agri-Food

1 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2 (Marketing and Trade).

Citizenship and Immigration

31 January 2012

The Committee resumed its study of the immigration application backlogs in light of the Action Plan for Faster Immigration; resumed consideration of a draft report.

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Environment and Sustainable Development

2 February 2012

- The Committee resumed its statutory review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.
- The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

31 January 2012

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that, prior to conducting any other studies or business, the Committee first report to the House regarding its statutory review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act;
- that, upon reporting to the House regarding its statutory review of the CEAA, the Committee then begin a study to provide recommendations to the Minister of the Environment regarding the development of a National Conservation Plan, including a consultation plan for the Committee; and the scope and structure of such a plan.

The Committee resumed its statutory review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act; and resumed consideration of a draft report.

Finance

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of tax incentives for charitable donations.

Foreign Affairs and International Development

1 February 2012

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the Committee invite Officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to appear before the Committee to provide a briefing on the situation in Syria on Tuesday, February 7, 2012.
- that the Committee undertake a study, consisting of a minimum of two meetings, to examine the independence of Ukraine and to discuss issues concerning democracy, human rights, the rule of law and foreign policy.
- that the Committee invite officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to appear for one hour to update Members on the ongoing negotiations regarding a Canada-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement on Wednesday, February 15, 2012.
- that the Committee devote at least one public session to study Canada's overseas development assistance to Ethiopia in light of allegations made by Human Rights Watch and; that witnesses to be invited to appear at this meeting include representatives from Human Rights Watch as well as Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); and that the Committee's findings be reported to the House of Commons before the summer adjournment.
- that the Committee, as part of the Government's continued engagement in the Americas, undertake a study to examine ways to increase the role that Canada could play in multilateral fora, for example the Organization of American States, in order to advance our three focuses in the Americas: democracy, security and prosperity.
- that the Committee undertake a study to examine Canada's Arctic Foreign Policy, focusing on ways in which Canada promotes its Northern Strategy abroad, including, but not limited to, economic development, scientific research, environmental protection and military operations.

Government Operations

1 February 2012

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The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed that the Committee:

- for its meeting of February 1, 2012, on Shared Services Canada, invite the Information Technology Association of Canada to appear in the first hour of the meeting and the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada to appear in the second hour;
- for its meeting of February 6, 2012, on Shared Services Canada, invite the Ontario Ministry of Government Services to appear in the first hour of the meeting and Price Waterhouse Coopers to appear in the second hour;
- that, following these two additional meetings on Shared Services Canada, consideration of this matter be put on hold so that it may be taken up at a later date, if necessary;
- for its meeting of February 8, 2012, on the of Anne-Marie Robinson to president of the Public Service Commission, invite the so-named appointee to appear in the event that her name be referred to the Committee for consideration;
- study the process for considering the estimates and supply at its meetings of February 13 and 15, 2012, and February 15, 2012;

The Committee commenced its study of the process for considering the estimates and supply.

The Committee resumed its study of the new entity Shared Services Canada.

Health

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of health promotion and disease prevention.

Human resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

1 February 2012

The Committee commenced consideration of Bill C-316, An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (incarceration).

Industry, Science and Technology

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of the e-commerce market in Canada. The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report.

International Trade

2 February 2012

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed that the Committee continue its consideration of the report on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with the European Union during the meetings of February 2 and 7, 2012, and subsequent meetings, if necessary to complete the consideration; that, if the consideration of the report is completed, the Committee, in order, continue its study of the Trade Commissioner Service and its study of the Comprehensive, Economic and Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with India; and that the Committee suspend all current studies in order to consider immediately Bill C-23, Canada–Jordan Economic Growth and Prosperity Act, if the bill is referred by the House of Commons.

The Committee resumed its study of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with the European Union. The Committee commenced consideration of a draft report.

National Defence

2 February 2012

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The Committee met with representatives of a delegation from the Republic of Namibia.

Natural Resources

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study on the current and Future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada.

31 January 2012

The Committee commenced its study on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada. Mark Corey, Peter Boag (Natural Resources Canada) and Hossam A. Gabbar (as an individual) made statements and, with the other witnesses, answered questions.

Public Accounts

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- That on February 28, 2012 and March 1, 2012, the Committee consider draft reports on Chapter 3, Reserve Force Pension Plan—National Defence, of the Spring 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada, and on the Public Accounts of Canada 2011;
- That on March 6, 8, and 13, 2012, the Committee undertake studies of certain chapters of the Fall 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada.

31 January 2012

The Committee resumed consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed that the Committee schedule its upcoming meetings as follows:

- February 2, 2012, the Committee schedule a meeting to discuss committee business;
- February 7 and 9, 2012, the Committee consider a draft report on Chapter 2, G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund, of the Spring 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada;
- February 14, 2012, the Committee consider a draft report on Chapter 1, Financial Management and Control and Risk Management, of the 2011 Status Report of the Auditor General of Canada;
- February 16, 2012, the Committee invite officials from the Treasury Board of Canada to provide a technical briefing on the Estimates process and that it be held in camera.

Public Safety and National Security

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of drugs and alcohol in prisons. The Committee commenced consideration of a draft report.

31 January 2012

The Committee met with the RCMP Commissioner. Robert Paulson answered questions.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the Committee consider a draft report on drugs and alcohol in prisons during the next two meetings;
- that the Committee undertake a study, for no less than eight meetings, of the use of electronic monitoring in both a corrections and conditional release setting, as well as an immigration enforcement setting, with a view to determining effectiveness, cost efficiency, and implementation readiness.

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Status of Women

1 February 2012

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the Committee study the prospects for Canadian girls with regards to economic prosperity, economic participation and economic leadership, and what changes can be made by Status of Women Canada to its approach to improving them;
- that the Committee invite the Minister for Status of Women and/or the Coordinator/Head of Agency and/or senior officials to appear before the Committee to discuss Main Estimates and any additional questions that the Committee may have;

Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

2 February 2012

The Committee resumed its study of the National Public Transit Strategy. It was agreed that amendments to the draft report be sent to the Clerk's office before the end of the day today, that they be translated and circulated to all members and, that the report be reprinted to include the amendments in time for its February 7, 2012, meeting.

Veterans Affairs

31 January 2012

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business.

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Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 7, 2012 4:21 PM
To: Forsberg, Patricia
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Duhamel, Liette
Subject: RE: notice to the Speaker

That would be great !

From: Forsberg, Patricia
Sent: February 7, 2012 2:09 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Duhamel, Liette
Subject: RE: notice to the Speaker

My week is pretty much planned out, but I'll try to squeeze it in.

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 7, 2012 2:02 PM
To: Forsberg, Patricia
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Duhamel, Liette
Subject: notice to the Speaker

Hi Pat!

Would it be possible for you to draft the descriptions of the April chapters for the notice to the Speaker? We want to send it out sooner rather than later in case the Minister of Finance decides to table his budget on the same day !!

Is Friday a.m. doable ?

Tks
joc

Therrien, Jocelyne

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 6, 2012 11:55 AM
To: Ferguson, Michael
Subject: 2 things

Hi Mike:

Hope all is well and the flight to Victoria was good.

1. We would like to send out the letter to Senator Day today (or tomorrow at the latest) since the English version you signed is dated for today. We now have the translation of the letter, so all we need is your approval to use your electronic signature for the French version.
2. On the thank you note to the members of the PAC, would you like me to send it out on your behalf or would you rather wait until you are back in Ottawa?

Merci bien !

Jocelyne

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 3, 2012 3:41 PM
To: Ferguson, Michael
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Frappier, Julie; Ethier, Karine
Subject: need your approval

Mike,

As per the procedure that applies to the use of electronic signatures, I need your written approval to use it. As I mentioned this morning, the electronic signature would be used for the French version of the letter to Senator Day which we plan to send out on Monday along with the English version that you were able to sign today.

Therefore, you can simply reply that you give us your ok for the letter.

MERCI
Jocelyne

Therrien, Jocelyne

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 7, 2012 2:41 PM
To: Ferguson, Michael
Cc: Berthelette, Jerome; Dupuis, Veronique
Subject: Today's hearing before the National Defence Committee

Hi Mike :

For your information....

The hearing that took place earlier today went well.

The Committee is undertaking a study on the state of readiness of the Canadian Forces. Jerome delivered an opening statement on the conclusions of our chapter on Maintaining and Repairing Military Equipment from the November 2011 report. Some of the questions went beyond that chapter and Jerome was able to draw on a few of his previous chapters to answer the questions.

During the first hour of the committee's hearing, members heard from the Union of National Defence Employees and some of the Union's allegations about Defence Construction Canada (covered in the media during the week-end). During that first hour, reference was made to our 2008 special examination report on DCC.

Frappier, Julie

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 3, 2012 9:15 AM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: AG and CESD references HoC and Sen Cttees June-Dec 2011
Attachments: PROXI-#694751-v1-AG References - Sen Cttees - June-Dec 2011 - Short version - Final.DOCX; PROXI-#694750-v1-AG and CESD references in HoC Cttees (June-Dec 2011) - Short version - Final.DOCX

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

FYI – Attached are two documents that summarize references to the AG and CESD during proceedings of the various committees of the House and Senate for the June – December 2011 period.

Pour votre information – vous trouverez ci-joint un sommaire des références au VG et au CEDD tirées des comptes-rendus des comités de la Chambre des communes et du Sénat pour la période de juin à décembre 2011.

N'hésitez pas à communiquer avec nous si vous avez des questions.

Jocelyne

REFERENCE TO THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL
IN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES HEARINGS

41st PARLIAMENT – 1st SESSION (June 2, 2011 – December 16, 2011)

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES	September 28, 2011	<p>The federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and on other matters generally relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada</p> <p>Murray Maracle, Education Director, Union of Ontario Indians — Anishinabek Nation: (...) The Auditor General over the last 15 years continuously gave the federal government bad reviews on handling Aboriginal education, along with some recommendations to improve. (...)</p>
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES	October 4, 2011	<p>The federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and on other matters generally relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada</p> <p>Bob Atwin, Executive Director, First Nation Education Initiative Inc.: (...) In New Brunswick, we have an MOU that has brought the province of New Brunswick, the First Nations people in the province and the Department of Indian Affairs together to collectively look at addressing the gap in First Nations education. The Auditor General's report of 2004 clearly articulates the gaps that exist in terms of our situation. The MOU that was signed was a conscious effort by all three parties, including 15 First Nations in the province, to address those issues. (...)</p> <p>Keith Frame, Assistant Director of Education, Prince Albert Grand Council: (...) With respect to the system that will be developed, the Auditor General even stated that INAC could not implement appropriate performance and results indicators and that in the absence of meaningful indicators, the department was not in a position to assess the report on performance and results of education. (...) As I mentioned at the beginning of my remarks, with the Auditor General and that wide focus on all those attributes that affect communities at the grassroots level, we can start to see the effects prior to students coming into underfunded proposal-driven programs. (...)</p>
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES	October 18, 2011	<p>The federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and on other matters generally relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada</p> <p>The Chair, Senator Gerry St. Germain: (...) As you may already be aware, in her 2004 audit of First Nations education, the Auditor General of Canada noted that "the parties lack a common understanding of the meaning and implications of First Nations jurisdiction over education," and that the "Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has not clearly defined its roles and responsibilities in this regard." (...)</p> <p>We are well aware that the AFN, the Auditor General and many other First Nations have suggested that new funding mechanisms are required if the delivery of education on reserves is to be improved. (...)</p>
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES	October 19, 2011	<p>The federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and on other matters generally relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada</p> <p>Terry Waboose, Deputy Grand Chief, Nishnawbe Aski Nation: (...) As the former Auditor General has made clear in her several reports on First Nations education, the achievement and graduation levels among our students fall far behind</p>

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES	November 02, 2011	<p>provincial norms. (...) Fundamental change is required. We are frustrated by the stopgap approach of Indian Affairs, whose response to our pleas for help and the Auditor General's reports is to put in time-limited proposal-driven programs. (...)</p> <p>The federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and on other matters generally relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada</p> <p>Shawn (A-in-chut) Atleo, National Chief, Assembly of First Nations: (...) The June 9, 2011, report of the outgoing Auditor General identified four main issues with the current federal approach to First Nations programming in general and education in particular. You may be aware that those four areas were: lack of clarity about service levels; lack of a legislative base; lack of appropriate funding mechanisms; and finally, lack of organizations to support local service delivery. Each of these areas supports our call to action and you have an opportunity to address each of these head on in this important report. (...)</p>
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES	November 16, 2011	<p>The federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and on other matters generally relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada</p> <p>Senator Patterson: I have some very specific questions. You had the privilege of being audited by the Auditor General in 2005 and 2009, I believe. The 2009 audit was a bit concerned about support for training and capacity building for land management. I know you have a resource centre, and it has had some funding problems in the past. The new agreement you recently signed with Canada, does that address some of the funding issues for the resource centre? Will that be dealt with through that agreement?</p> <p>Robert Louie, Chair, Lands Advisory Board: Yes, it partly addresses that. There is a need to enhance the training that is currently being made available. (...) In the proposed funding agreement, which will start April 1, 2012, some dollars can be allocated toward training and capacity building. It will certainly go much further in addressing that particular issue. (...)</p>
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES	November 22, 2011	<p>The federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and on other matters generally relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada</p> <p>Senator Sibbeston: (...) Land claim organizations and native people come and sign agreements with a lot of hope, but the federal government invariably does not implement the agreement. There have been problems. The people that have made claims in the last decades have organized into a group dealing with this problem of implementation. (...)</p> <p>Patrick Borbey, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Treaties and Aboriginal Government, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada: (...) I am pleased to note that the last report of the Auditor General has acknowledged that we have made significant improvements. We have put in place some structural changes to ensure that we have a whole-of-government approach to implementation and there are as few gaps as possible. (...)</p>
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY	December 08, 2011	<p>Bill C-18, An Act to reorganize the Canadian Wheat Board</p> <p>Kenneth Rosaasen, University of Saskatchewan: (...) How is this new agency created in Bill C-18 made accountable? (...) The Auditor General examines government agencies and has also examined the CWB. However, by stating it is not an arm of government or the Crown, where is the accountability? (...)</p>

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
		Given the court ruling that Minister Ritz acted contrary to the law, it provides time for a proper analysis. While a farmers' vote is being conducted, I would suggest that the retired Auditor General be asked to work with published and peer-reviewed economists to determine the selling premiums that are achieved through the single desk for the Western grains industry. (...)
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY	December 09, 2011	<p>Bill C-18, An Act to reorganize the Canadian Wheat Board</p> <p>Drew Baker, as an individual: (...) Additionally, the new government-run Canadian Wheat Board will not be subject to review by the Auditor General and, instead of 10 farmer-elected directors, only the five appointed government directors will remain. This effectively means that there is no real protection of farmers' interests or their money under the new Wheat Board. (...)</p>
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY	December 12, 2011	<p>Bill C-18, An Act to reorganize the Canadian Wheat Board</p> <p>Senator Mercer: The logical question is, does the Auditor General have a role in reviewing the finances of this poorly defined entity? This is an act of Parliament that will be put in place, and we are making some significant changes. There is lots of money involved. We are creating a new governance structure of five individuals who will be appointed by the Governor-in-Council. It would seem to me that oversight by the Auditor General is the minimum one could expect and the minimum that Canadians could expect that the Auditor General will be keeping an eye on the activities.</p> <p>Greg Meredith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: There is no provision in the act for the Auditor General to oversee the corporation, but it does have a statutory obligation to have an independent audit of its books annually and to submit that audit to the government for approval by the Governor-in-Council.</p> <p>Senator Cordy: My concern has been raised by Senator Mercer. My concern is accountability to Parliament. If this bill passes, which it will because the government has the majority, the Auditor General cannot make recommendations. (...)</p>
ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES	October 04, 2011	<p>The current state and future of Canada's energy sector (including alternative energy)</p> <p>Hon. Peter Kent, P.C., M.P., Minister of the Environment: (...) It is timely that we meet today. As you know, the Commissioner of Environment and Sustainable Development tabled his report today. We note his findings, and I will certainly stand behind our government's continued strong action on environmental issues that matter most to Canadians. We continue to make progress on our sector-by-sector approach.</p> <p>To address a few of the issues, the commissioner reached in his findings, for example, the cumulative environmental effects of oil sands projects. He did so, and this cannot be repeated too often, before our government announced the next step in the development of a world-class monitoring plan. Canada's rich resources are a driver of economic growth, and we must ensure we develop them in an environmentally sustainable way for the benefit of generations to come. (...)</p> <p>Senator W. David Angus (Chair): (...) I wrote to you after our pleasant dinner meeting in the spring. In a letter of thanks to you I added that, as a matter of interest, the Commissioner of the Environment, Mr. Scott Vaughan, appeared before our committee that morning, March 10. I said that as I had predicted to you the previous evening, he was most critical of our government, especially respecting climate change policy and strategy. Among other things, he stated: "The lack of a federal strategy and action plan has hindered departments' efforts at coordinating actions to address the effects of climate change." Then lo and behold, this morning, the Commissioner of the Environment surfaced once again and tabled his most recent</p>

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES	November 30, 2011 (pm)	<p>report, the October 2011 report, in the House of Commons. I will read to you the paragraph and then I will ask you to comment on those quotes. In the press release that the commissioner issued with his report, he stated as follows:</p> <p>The federal government lacks reliable information to inform Canadians about environmental change and to take actions needed to safeguard environmental quality. (...)</p> <p>Mr. Kent: (...) With regard to our commitment, and I have a feeling that the environment commissioner in the Auditor General's department will be as glad to see the behind of the Kyoto Protocol as our government will be, he acknowledged that the federal government has made new international and national commitments set out under the Copenhagen Accord, the 2010 federal sustainability strategy and the Cancun action plan.</p> <p>He continued:</p> <p>All of these establish a commitment to achieving a 17 percent reduction, from the 2005 levels, in greenhouse gases by 2020.</p> <p>I tried to persuade disinterested members of the opposition in Question Period today. I believe that in his report the environment commissioner has recognized that our government does have a plan, that we do have targets, and that he applauds the work we have done and continue to lay out in our sector-by-sector approach to reducing greenhouse gases.</p> <p>The Chair: That is good to hear, Mr. Minister. Senator Mitchell, you have the floor.</p> <p>Senator Mitchell: I think the chair asked all my questions. It was a good question. I admire the dexterity with which the minister answered.</p> <p>The Chair: The candour.</p> <p>Senator Mitchell: The candour, yes. It was kind of a bait-and-switch answer because the point that the commissioner makes is that there is a lack of key management systems and tools needed to achieve, measure and report on greenhouse gas emission reductions generally, not just in the oil sands. (...)</p>
		<p>The current state and future of Canada's energy sector (including alternative energy)</p> <p>Senator Neufeld: (...) Just so I understand, it is those that emit over 100,000 tonnes per year from electrical generation of oil and gas and pipelines, and do they have a choice of investing in offsets or in the tech fund?</p> <p>Eric Newell, Chair, Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation: (...) One, they can go out and buy offsets. We just saw that the Auditor General had some fairly critical comments on our system, but believe me, it is all understandable. We will get that right too. They can buy the offsets, or if they want, they can put the money into the fund, and the rate they put it into the fund is \$15 a tonne. (...)</p>
ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES	December 01, 2011	<p>The current state and future of Canada's energy sector (including alternative energy)</p> <p>Senator Mitchell: Can you give us an assessment of how well you think that particular system is working? [i.e. Alberta offset trading system]</p> <p>Simon Knight, President and Chief Executive Officer, C3 — Energy. Ideas. Change: There has been some criticism in the paper just recently from the Auditor General, and we are well aware of it.</p>

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS	September 29, 2011	<p>Parole Board of Canada's User Fees Proposal</p> <p>Senator Fraser: (...) When I listened to your description of the cost-benefit analysis, it seemed to me that the \$2.83 was essentially measuring the benefit to the person pardoned, and to some extent to that person's family, but not so much to society in general. Just to set the framework here, I will read you a passage from the report of the Auditor General in May 2008. The Auditor General is not a bleeding heart type of person. She said, of course, that you have to do a proper cost analysis of the cost to the government. She also said there are other factors that need to be taken into account, including some that she described as key factors. The first one listed is:</p> <p>... considering what proportion of costs or value the fee payer will bear, and what proportion the general taxpayer will cover through tax revenues. This is a challenging but key task to ensure that the fee payer and the taxpayer carry fair burdens. ... If organizations overcharge fee payers for benefits or services, the fee payers may be subsidizing benefits that are enjoyed by the general public. (...)</p>
NATIONAL FINANCE	June 15, 2011	<p>Supplementary Estimates (A) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012</p> <p>Senator Callbeck: On page 21, the Financial Transactions Reports Analysis Centre of Canada is requesting an additional \$14.7 million, which is a huge amount. It is 40 per cent of what was asked for initially. Why is such a large amount required here?</p> <p>Sally Thornton, Executive Director, Expenditure Operations and Estimates, Expenditure Management Sector, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat: Budget 2006 had originally set aside annual funding of about \$28 million to help FINTRAC, the Canadian Border Services Agency, the RCMP and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to address compliance with international Financial Action Task Force recommendations, operational funding pressures and to comply with recommendations in the 2004 Auditor General's report.</p>
NATIONAL FINANCE	June 16, 2011	<p>Main Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012. Topic: Procurement</p> <p>Senator Nancy Ruth: To the ombudsman again: In the review you will be doing, how will you deal with the Auditor General's report on the helicopters?</p> <p>Frank Brunetta, Procurement Ombudsman, Office of the Procurement Ombudsman: The review we are doing is an internally focused review to determine whether, in the first three years of operation, we are meeting our mandate, whether there are shortcomings, and whether there are areas I should raise with the minister that need to be adjusted. It is an internally focused assessment to determine whether the mandate that was laid out for the office is actually being achieved.</p> <p>Senator Nancy Ruth: That might include the report of the Auditor General in the fall of 2010. It is only a few months ago, so I am sure the department has not had much time to deal with it.</p> <p>Senator Callbeck: Mr. Brunetta, you talked about your mandate, and you mentioned reviewing departments.(...) Are you satisfied that departments are following through on your recommendations? Do you have any power over this, or do you just submit a report to them and if they choose to do nothing then nothing happens?</p>

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
NATIONAL FINANCE	June 21, 2011	<p>Mr. Brunetta: (...) In terms of the strong-arm element of the mandate, I do not have the same powers as the Auditor General. It is not a requirement for departments to accept the recommendations. (...)</p> <p>Supplementary Estimates (A) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012</p> <p>Senator Murray: I must confess I have not read the Auditor General's latest report with regard to Aboriginal housing, housing on reserves. I have, I guess like most of us, seen the media reports and I believe I have a fair grasp of what she had to say. (...)</p> <p>I am sure you can guess at my concern, which is that some of this might be falling between departmental or bureaucratic stools and that this may explain some of the problems that have been identified by the Auditor General and others, regarding the inadequacy of the progress that has been made to date. (...)</p> <p>Karen Kinsley, President, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation: (...) With respect to your question about falling between the chairs, I would like to refer to a comment made by the Auditor General in this last report. There is a need for clarity amongst the First Nation communities with respect to the roles and responsibilities as between the two federal agencies.</p> <p>In the Auditor General's report — if I am perhaps putting some words in the report — the clarity between the two agencies is there but the recipients, or the beneficiaries, the First Nation communities, the auditor's report notes, are sometimes confused between the two federal agencies and the two programs. (...)</p> <p>Senator Cordy: It seems that when we heard about H1N1, for example, all we heard about was the overcrowding. What are the waiting lists for housing on reserve?</p> <p>Ms. Kinsley: There are no accurate numbers. The Auditor General talks about a shortfall in the report. (...)</p>
NATIONAL FINANCE	June 22, 2011	<p>Bill C-3, An Act to implement certain provisions of the 2011 budget as updated on June 6, 2011</p> <p>Senator Joseph A. Day, Chair: Thank you. We will go to Part 5. This is the Auditor General Act. It is topical as a new Auditor General is being sought at the present time.</p> <p>We have a number of colleagues here to help us ensure there is nothing hidden in this rather minimal section of clause 17, which states that "Subsection 3(2) of the Auditor General Act is repealed."</p> <p>Mr. Guéranger, Acting Assistant Comptroller General, Financial Management Sector, Treasury Board of Canada: In a nutshell, relatively speaking, compared with the other parts, this one is straightforward. It proposes to repeal subsection 3(2) of the Auditor General Act. To put this clause into context, section 3 of this act provides that the Auditor General may hold office for a term of 10 years. Subsection 3(2) of the act, though, requires that the Auditor General retire at the age of 65. This requirement limits the number of candidates with the appropriate skills that would be interested in applying to the position. The repealing of subsection 3(2) would ensure that a larger number of experienced candidates could apply to the position.</p> <p>The Chair: There was a qualification the Auditor General could not serve beyond the age of 65. There was another qualification that the Senate removed in relation to the Auditor General's qualifications, and that is that the Auditor General must be a chartered accountant, CA. We had that qualification removed in 2006, yet the advertising for the position continued</p>

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
		<p>to have that qualification as a requirement. How can we be assured if we make this amendment that the requirement that the Auditor General can serve only until 65 will not be repeated?</p> <p>Mr. Guéranger: As soon as it is in the act.</p> <p>The Chair: We felt it was important to remove the qualification that the Auditor General must be from one auditing association when there are several. It did not seem to be right in legislation; however, the qualification has continued to be applied in the hiring. (...)</p> <p>The Chair: (...) Next is Part 11 of 12 parts, transfers between departments. (...)</p> <p>Gonzague Guéranger: I will give a brief summary of this part of the bill. It proposes to add one section to the Financial Administration Act, that being section 29.2. The objective of this new section is to enable collaboration between departments so that they can provide administrative services amongst themselves. (...) We have seen over the past years an increasing desire from departments to collaborate by sharing services. (...) In fact, it is a response to recommendations in the Auditor General's 2008 report that pointed out that many small agencies across government do not have enough capacity to manage these administrative services and that they are struggling or are putting administrative services in place in a way that is not cost effective. It was recommended that we provide this flexibility in order to reduce the cost for small agencies, in particular, to increase their capacity.</p>
NATIONAL FINANCE	October 18, 2011	<p>Main Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012</p> <p>John McBride, Chief Executive Officer, Public-Private Partnership Canada Inc: (...) As an arm's-length Crown, we are responsible for managing ourselves. (...) We are audited by the Auditor General and KPMG. (...)</p> <p>Senator Marshall: I am speaking from memory. When your chief financial officer was here testifying, my recollection is that the Auditor General does the joint audit with the private sector firms.</p> <p>Mr. McBride: Correct.</p> <p>Senator Marshall: I think at the time someone had asked about whether the Auditor General had done her special review or special examination. My recollection is that that has not been done yet, but that it is scheduled for 2015 or 2016 or something.</p> <p>Mr. McBride: You are quite right. In terms of the financial audit — and we also have an internal audit program — the Auditor General is the auditor. They do that in partnership with KPMG. In our annual report there is a report from the Auditor General that says everything is tickety-boo. There is a process for Crown corporations called special examinations that the Auditor General does on a more cyclical basis. My understanding is that is now a five- to seven- year cycle they do those things on, so we would anticipate that our special exam would come around 2014 or 2015.</p> <p>Senator Marshall: That was my recollection too.</p> <p>The Chair: Is that special exam what we have come to call a value-for-money audit, where the Auditor General actually</p>

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
		<p>investigates the policy issues?</p> <p>Mr. McBride: I was CEO of a previous Crown, the Canadian Commercial Corporation, and have gone through a special examination. The mandate of that is much broader than the financial audit. They look at processes, value, risks and the whole gamut. Frankly, it is basically wide open to whatever the Auditor General thinks that the Auditor General would like to, and we welcome that. We have a great relationship with them. It is kind of like they do cyclical audits on a more in-depth basis on ministries and departments, and they do it on a five- to seven-year cycle on Crown corporations.</p> <p>The Chair: In answer to Senator Marshall, you said the Auditor General is our auditor, but we also have KPMG, which is a private sector audit. If the Auditor General was your auditor, why do you have a private sector auditor?</p> <p>Mr. McBride: The Financial Administration Act says the Auditor General is your auditor, but the Auditor General can choose, and we can choose to partner the Auditor General with several firms. Some Crowns use just the Auditor General and some Crowns partner up with that. It has worked very well, and both of the audit entities report, come to our audit committee and they both sign the audit statement. It is not like just KPMG does the audit. They are both actually physically on our premises. Some days I wonder whether it is a good thing to have two sets of auditors reviewing my books, but they seem to think it makes for a better result. We have continued that process.</p> <p>The Chair: This is your board's choice, to have two different auditors?</p> <p>Mr. McBride: Yes. It is something that we are allowed, and it has worked quite well. It is one of those in-camera discussions that the audit committee would have with the auditors on making choices on those kinds of things. We do not have discretion about whether the Auditor General is our auditor. That is why I meant the Auditor General is our auditor, period. However, there is discretion on whether or not to also engage a private sector firm.</p>
NATIONAL FINANCE	November 15, 2011	<p>Main Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012; and in the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012</p> <p>Senator Finley: (...) During the election campaign, there was a pretty obvious incident of what I assume was some form of union agitated league of a draft of the Auditor General's report to one of the political parties who in turn leaked it to the press. (...)</p> <p>Senator Nancy Ruth: There were a number of comments in your paper about documentation and records, whether it was documentation of merit or something else. The only reason I am raising this is because the former Auditor General had made quite an issue when she did her audit on GBA [gender-based analysis] that the records were not open and transparent. If there were records, they were hidden in cabinet documents to which she did not have access. It raised for me some concern that throughout the civil service record-keeping that is open to the public is a bit of a problem.</p> <p>Maria Barrados, President, Public Service Commission of Canada: (...) There is a general comment, and I made it when I was at the Auditor General, and the past Auditor General made the same comment, that record-keeping is something that must be improved. The auditors will look for records but they will also talk to people to make sure that it is not somewhere else. There is a need to improve the record-keeping.</p>

COMMITTEE	DATE	REFERENCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS	November 02, 2011	<p>Services and benefits provided to members of the Canadian Forces; to veterans; to members and former members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their families</p> <p>Dale Sharkey, Director General, Veterans Review and Appeal Board: (...) We are also subject to the Comptroller General, as a small agency under their policies, looking at things like compliance with regulations and policies of Treasury Board, internal control. As well, the Auditor General, whenever they look at programs such as the pension program or the disability award program, they would be looking at the continuation into the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.</p> <p>Senator Day: Have you had the Auditor General in to do a value-for-money audit since 1995?</p> <p>Ms. Sharkey: No.</p>
OFFICIAL LANGUAGES	October 27, 2011	<p>Application of the Official Languages Act and of the regulations and directives under it, as well as the use of the Internet, new media and social media, and the respect for Canadians' language rights</p> <p>Senator Dawson: (...) I know this is the least partisan committee of the Senate, but I have to comment that if you applied the rules that the government applied for recruiting the Auditor General of Canada, you would not have any bilingual recruits; the advertising was done for a bilingual candidate and what we have is a unilingual candidate. If you applied that rule at the Treasury Board, I think you would have a lot of trouble, I think.</p>
SOCIAL AFFAIRS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	November 02, 2011	<p>Progress in implementing the 2004 10-Year Plan to Strengthen Health Care</p> <p>Stuart J. Whitley, Deputy Minister, Health and Social Services, Government of Yukon: (...) I think two of us, if not Nunavut, have had scrutiny from the Auditor General of Canada, and we always welcome pointers on how we can do things better, even if they are a little harsh in the observation. They have said to us, in the course of their performance audits, that we need to strengthen recruitment and retention. Well, hallelujah, we agree with that. We need to improve our systems performance measurement and monitoring. We completely agree with that. We agree in the Yukon, at least, with all of the recommendations of the Auditor General. However, it means that we are looking at a major investment in systems to bring our capacity to do the kinds of evaluations, tracking and trend predictions that they want us to do more easily. (...)</p> <p>Debbie DeLancey, Acting Deputy Minister, Department of Health and Social Services, Government of the Northwest Territories: (...) Accountability is an emerging issue in health across the country and was an issue identified by the Auditor General of Canada in the recent review of our system. As a small jurisdiction with eight different authorities that have different data collection systems, staff and ways of operating, we have been very challenged to start putting accountability measures in place. This is an area where we know we have a lot of work to do. (...) The Auditor General has recommended that we need to do a comprehensive five-year plan for health human resources in the Northwest Territories. That is a big project. That is something we will look to THSSI funding to help us undertake.</p>

No substantive AG/CESD references in the following committees:

- Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce
- Fisheries and Oceans
- Foreign Affairs and International Trade
- Human Rights
- National Security and Defence
- Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament
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ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS	October 27, 2011	<p>Treaty Process</p> <p>Mr. Stephen Gagnon (Director General, Implementation Branch, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): By way of context, land claim implementation has been fairly heavily scrutinized over the last decade or so, I would say. The Auditor General has made a number of reports. (...) I don't want to oversimplify, but the theme was that Canada needed to do a better job of implementing land claims. It was constructive criticism that we've taken to heart. We realized that we needed to organize ourselves better internally.</p>
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS	November 01, 2011	<p>Briefing with the Assembly of First Nations</p> <p>Mr. Greg Rickford (Kenora, CPC): (...) I want to spend a little bit of time on something that you mentioned in your speech. It's with respect to chapter 4 of the Auditor General's report of June 2011. The Auditor General rightly identified a number of long-standing structural impediments that have severely limited the delivery of public services to first nations communities and that hinder living conditions on reserve. It highlighted that the federal government alone cannot address these impediments, and that first nations have an important role to play. So that in addition to stable funding, the Auditor General pointed out, <i>inter alia</i>, of course, that there was a need for a legislative base for programs, enforceable standards, and a greater capacity for service delivery at the community level. (...) Summarily speaking, do you agree with this perspective, or this take-away, if you will, from the Auditor General's report?</p> <p>National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo (National Chief, Assembly of First Nations): (...) The outgoing Auditor General also reflected on the challenges that I was referring to in the Indian Act relationship between first nations and governments: that the Government of Canada needs to be accountable to first nations for how it discharges its responsibility to first nations and for the outcomes of its actions. (...) The concluding point is that we've all inherited a system that in the end does not offer true accountability. The bureaucracy has been growing, with innumerable people chasing reports that don't end up being read. That's what the Auditor General said, not what I've said.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>What we don't want to see is conflict or competition between people for what are already, as you rightly pointed out, resources that are limited. But when times were good, when the resources were there, first nations didn't see a shift in funding. The 2% cap has been around since 1996, and the Auditor General reflected on a full 10 years: the reflection was that the gap was deepening. This, then, becomes about how we ensure that all first nations are going to be supported going forward.</p>
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS	November 22, 2011	<p>Study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development</p> <p>Ms. Margaret Buist (Director General, Lands and Environmental Management, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): (...) Canada currently has a decade-old policy to guide its decisions on when and how lands will be added to existing reserves or when new reserves will be created. The policy and the associated procedures are time-</p>

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		<p>consuming, expensive, and complex. Many issues have been raised, not only by first nations, but by other parties, including the Office of the Auditor General, which in 2005 and 2009 criticized the government for the delays and costs involved in the additions to reserve process. (...)</p> <p>Mr. LaVar Payne (Medicine Hat, CPC): (...) First, what else has the department done to address key recommendations of the Office of the Auditor General in the 2005 and 2009 reports regarding the additions to reserve lands and that process?</p> <p>Ms. Jolene Head (Acting Director, Lands and Environment Operational Policy, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): (...) the department has implemented, the national ATR tracking system. NATS is what we call it. (...) Our department as well, jointly with NALMA, (...) has developed the ATR tool kit and subsequent training, which has been under way for the last two years, so that first nations can better understand their roles and responsibilities in the ATR process, as well as those of all of the other stakeholders, and are better able to promote consistency in the approach to the transactions.</p>
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS	November 24, 2011	<p>Study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development</p> <p>Mr. Stephen Gagnon (Director General, Implementation Branch, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): We have had a fair bit of scrutiny on the implementation issues from the Auditor General, and various parliamentary committees. Recently, the Auditor General came out with a report saying that we were making satisfactory progress in a number of areas, and I don't think I'm overstating it by saying some of the Inuvialuit follow-up is among the things on which we are making progress. (...)</p> <p>The Chair (Mr. Chris Warkentin (Peace River, CPC)): (...) RLEMP [reserve land and environment management program] is currently open or closed? We understood from the Auditor General that there were some concerns with regard to its flexibility for nations wanting to enter.</p> <p>Mr. Kris Johnson (Senior Director, Lands Modernization, Community Opportunities Branch, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): (...) We're meeting the demand to keep pace, and we are transitioning people out of those old RLAP and 53/60 programs into RLEMP.</p>
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS	November 30, 2011	<p>Supplementary Estimates (B) 2011-2012</p> <p>Hon. John Duncan (Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development): (...) In June, the Auditor General's status report analyzed why so many Government of Canada programs fail to deliver the intended benefits to first nation communities. The key factor cited in the report is that many programs have no legislative base. Should a program fail, no one can be held accountable. To ensure that programs and investments achieve their goals, this government will continue to develop and</p>

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		implement appropriate legislative remedies in collaboration with our stakeholders. (...)
		Mr. Greg Rickford (Kenora, CPC): (...) Minister, first of all, I took great comfort from your remarks on responding to the Auditor General with respect to a legislative base for many of the large-scale programs and projects. (...)
		(...)
		Mr. David Wilks (Kootenay—Columbia, CPC): (...) I wonder if you could speak to (...) how important it is to have the regulations and laws in place so that when we put waste water and water treatment systems in place in first nations communities, they stay in place for some time. (...)
		Mr. Michael Wernick (Deputy Minister, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): I would commend to the committee, if you want somebody's independent view on this, the spring report of the Auditor General, Chapter 4. Madam Fraser talks about this quite extensively and comes down very clearly on the need for a legislative basis and standards. I certainly agree with that, and I talked about this at the public accounts committee last month. (...)
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS	December 06, 2011	Study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development
		Mr. David Kunuk (Director of Implementation, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Land Claims Agreements Coalition): (...) There have definitely been great strides in making our agreements into reality, but there have been many fundamental flaws, and that's why we're here. Otherwise we wouldn't be here. This could be contested through the Auditor General's report. She also recognized that there is a flaw in the implementation process. Implementation policy is a must from our end of the view. (...)
		(...)
		Mr. Kyle Seeback (Brampton West, CPC): (...) I do know that the Auditor General's report in 2011 indicated there was certainly some progress being made in a number of areas, specifically when you deal with an implementation management framework, a guide to federal implementers, and a treaty obligation monitoring system. The Auditor General commented that these were steps in the right direction. (...)
		(...)
		Mr. Kevin McKay (Chair, Nisga'a Nation, and Coalition Co-chair, Land Claims Agreements Coalition): (...) We are unable to have a means to measure progress against objectives instead of obligations. Of course, as you are aware, this is contrary to the recommendations of the Auditor General in this respect. (...)
ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PRIVACY AND ETHICS	September 29, 2011	Motion to undertake a study of the use of the G8 Legacy Fund
		Mr. Charlie Angus (Timmins—James Bay, NDP): (...) I find it a very, very disturbing possibility that the Auditor General was misled. I find it very disturbing that senior bureaucrats would not have told the Auditor General about their involvement. The Auditor General's report also refers to the fact that there was no paper trail and that this was a shocking finding. They'd never seen anything like this, where this amount of money was disbursed without a paper trail.(...)

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		I think this is an issue that has to be brought to the ethics committee. We have to get to the bottom of why the Auditor General released a report in which the information the Auditor General was given was clearly at odds with the facts. Canadians have great respect for the role of the Auditor General . We put great trust in the Auditor General to be able to hold all governments to account. If the Auditor General is not being given the documents, if the Auditor General is being told by bureaucrats that they have no idea how the money was being spent when they were clearly involved, that raises questions about ethical breaches of this government.
ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PRIVACY AND ETHICS	October 06, 2011	<p>G-20 (reference in context of study on Access to Information Dispute and the Resulting Court Actions Concerning CBC)</p> <p>Mr. Dean Del Mastro (Peterborough, CPC): (...) We talked about the G-20 security expenses. Frankly, the government was beaten up over it. We came forward. We said where we spent money. It came in well under \$300 million, the amount budgeted, and the story went away. There had been so many rumours out there about misspending and abuse, but the Auditor General came in and looked at it and everybody agreed that it was consistent with how we spend money. We may not want to host another G-20. In my opinion, though, I think it's a responsibility if you're going to belong to the G-20. But the bottom line is, once the Auditor General looked at it and said the spending was consistent, the story went away.(...)</p>
ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PRIVACY AND ETHICS	October 20, 2011	<p>G8 (reference in context of study on Access to Information Dispute and the Resulting Court Actions Concerning CBC)</p> <p>Mr. Charlie Angus (Timmins—James Bay, NDP): (...) I'm interested in this issue of the black hole of accountability. I'm not going to get into too many side issues, but we saw the issue with the G-8 spending where the Auditor General couldn't find the documents, and we found out later they were run through the minister's constituency office. There was certainly widespread speculation in the media that by running it through the constituency offices it was effectively beyond the reach of the Information Commissioner, so millions of taxpayers' dollars were allowed to be flowed because it was beyond access to information.</p>
ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PRIVACY AND ETHICS	November 24, 2011	<p>Study on Access to Information Dispute and the Resulting Court Actions Concerning CBC</p> <p>Mr. Hubert T. Lacroix (President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation): (...) We have the Auditor General of Canada, who reviews and signs off on our financial statements each and every year, and who conducts a comprehensive special audit, every five to ten years. His report is tabled in Parliament. (...)</p> <p>Mr. Dean Del Mastro (Peterborough, CPC): (...) But even more importantly, when you say that you're subject to Auditor General's reviews and audited statements, I did four years of university business education, and I can tell you that an aggregated financial statement does not provide any kind of transparency in the regard I've just spoken to. It simply puts all the numbers together in a big heap that can account for everything. (...)</p>

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		<p>Mr. Hubert T. Lacroix: (...) Right now the Auditor General is doing one of his special exams. This is going to be a thorough review of what's going on at CBC/Radio-Canada and a report will be filed, in the same way as the 2005 report, which was the last time that the Auditor General came. (...)</p>
AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD	December 06, 2011	<p>Study on Growing Forward 2 (Business Risk Management Programs)</p> <p>Mr. Frank Valeriote (Guelph, Lib.): (...) This isn't the first time we've looked at business risk management. We looked at it a couple of years ago in our study of the competitiveness of the agriculture industry. And yet we still have a letter coming--of December 5--from the Auditor General confirming what you said in regard to BRM, that "Farmers can wait up to two years for a payment and the amount of the payment is hard to predict." (...)</p> <p>Mr. Malcolm Allen (Welland, NDP): Let me put on my other hat as a member of a different committee. This will be no shock to my friends, I don't think, but let me talk to you about what the Auditor General found about BRM: <i>Another long-standing problem is understanding program objectives and responsibilities for managing farm income risks. From 2008 to 2010, the Department conducted a strategic review to address pressures from producers and industry for program improvements. The review found a lack of clarity in the roles and responsibilities for producers, industry, and government relative to farm income risk management. It also found that objectives for income support programs needed to be clarified.</i></p> <p>That comes from the Auditor General. Of course, there's a recommendation to Agri-Food Canada from the Auditor General that says: <i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada should work with service delivery partners to understand their challenges and develop and monitor realistic implementation timelines for future income support programs.</i></p> <p>The department said, of course, that would be done in Growing Forward 2 in 2013. I know we're almost at the end of 2011, but the reality is that the Auditor General and the department concur with you on the things you've identified and commented on numerous times today, but the fix is down the road.</p> <p>So I guess my question would be this. (...) do you sense that we will lose farmers between then and now? (...) losing farmers because these programs aren't going to get fixed until 2013, even though the Auditor General says—and this is no longer anecdotal—that the programs aren't doing what they're intended to do and folks are waiting up to two years for money.</p>
CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION	November 24, 2011	<p>Supplementary Estimates (B) 2011-2012</p> <p>Hon. Denis Coderre (Bourassa, Lib.): (...) We are going to talk about the Auditor General's report. It seems the agency has trouble determining at the border whether a visa applicant is inadmissible for health or security reasons. In terms of the tools being used at present, the operational guidelines or the country-specific risk profile guide, they are said to be sometimes incomplete. When they are used, the information is not up to date. (...) I know you are of the same opinion as the Auditor General. You have said you are going to rectify the situation. But what does this mean specifically? (...)</p>

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		<p>Hon. Jason Kenney (Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism): The Auditor General's report contains a number of points. We agree with him concerning his recommendations. On several points, we have already taken actions to improve how visa applications are checked in terms of and public health and safety.</p> <p>For example, the Auditor General said there are 26 diseases on the Public Health Agency of Canada's list, but we regularly check for only two diseases. That is why we have initiated consultations with the Public Health Agency of Canada to see whether there are more diseases that we should be checking for.</p> <p>Second, in terms of security, that involves all the security agencies, the Canada Border Services Agency, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the RCMP, and so on. We are doing our best to cooperate with them. (...)</p> <p>In terms of the form, the Auditor General said that we do not have enough information to make admissibility decisions. The problem is that the only way to get more information is to request it and require that applicants provide more information. However, all MPs complain about the fact that the process is already too difficult.</p>
CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION	December 01, 2011	<p>The Provincial Nominee Program</p> <p>Mr. David Manicom (Director General, Immigration Branch, Department of Citizenship and Immigration): (...) Similar to the findings of provincial reports, the 2009 federal Auditor General report pointed out that although provinces and territories are required to conduct due diligence to ensure applicants have the ability to economically establish, CIC is unable to assess the extent to which provinces and territories have carried this out. The report recommended that CIC work with provinces and territories to put quality assurance mechanisms in place in order to ensure that nomination decisions are consistent and compliant with the act, regulations, and provincial nominee program criteria.</p> <p>In the fall of 2010 CIC launched a national evaluation of the nominee program to assess its performance, with a focus on economic outcomes and mobility of provincial nominees. We expect the results to be published in early 2012, and we will work with provincial and territorial governments to implement recommendations flowing out of the evaluation. In the interim, CIC is addressing issues arising out of the auditors' general reports both bilaterally, through an ongoing review of agreements, and multilaterally. (...)</p> <p>Mr. Ted Opitz (Etobicoke Centre, CPC): (...)Sir, the Auditor General's report made a strong recommendation that the federal government has to do a better job of screening for security and medical admissibility of entrants and immigration and refugee applicants to Canada. The opposition has stated that they agree with the Auditor General; however, some people still say that the federal government should not have the final say on whether a provincial nominee gets into the country.(...)</p> <p>Mr. David Manicom: (...)The Auditor General pointed out the challenges of the current system in ensuring good communications between differing government departments responsible for screening of immigrants and visitors, so that would be a very significant constitutional and legal change.(...)</p> <p>Mrs. Sadia Groquhé (Saint-Lambert, NDP): My question is about the Auditor General's report, wherein she recommends</p>

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		that evaluations be done on the economic settlement of the persons who come here. You referred to mechanisms and quality assurance. Since 2009, have any processes been designed to perform these assessments? If so, what are they and what will they be like? Do you have any information in this regard?
		Mr. David Manicom: We are working on some quality assurance programs with some provinces. (...)
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	October 20, 2011	<p>Statutory Review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</p> <p>Ms. Elaine Feldman (President, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency): (...) Federal coordination was a problem highlighted by the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development in his 2009 report. But, as I have mentioned already, targeted amendments to the act since then have addressed this issue for the larger projects by making the agency responsible for the conduct of comprehensive studies. The problem remains for screenings. (...) Finally, the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development, along with others, has pointed to the challenge of using a process that assesses single projects to also assess cumulative effects of many projects in a region. There are no provisions in the act that enable comprehensive regional assessments.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>In 2007, the agency's quality assurance program examined a sample of over 2,200 screenings. Those are for the small projects. Of the projects examined, 94% were found to have only minimal or minor potential for adverse environmental effects. In 2009, the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development confirmed this finding, based on the sample of projects audited for his report.</p> <p>Ms. Laurin Liu (Rivière-des-Mille-Îles, NDP): I have also read the 2009 report of the environment commissioner. The report examined whether the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act is applied across the government. In half of the screenings studied, the explanations were too broken up to show how the environmental effects of projects were to be assessed. That is of great concern, since we know that screenings make up 99% of environmental assessments. What has since been done to address the screening problems?</p> <p>Ms. Elaine Feldman: It is the responsible authorities, not the agencies, that conduct the screenings. Since the commissioner's report, we have focused on ensuring that we provide proper training to officials in other departments so they can carry out their responsibilities in conducting screenings in a way that ensures environmental protection.</p>
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	October 27, 2011	<p>Statutory Review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</p> <p>Ms. Laurin Liu (Rivière-des-Mille-Îles, NDP): (...) In 2009, the environmental commissioner assessed the application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act by the government. The commissioner stated that when determining the scope of the project to be assessed, the other federal authorities did not agree amongst themselves. This often hinders the</p>

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		assessment process, causes delays and even sometimes causes multiple assessments to be conducted. What has been done since the commissioner's report to correct the problems related to federal coordination, particularly with regard to the scope of the projects?
		Mr. Yves Leboeuf (Vice-President, Operations, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency): Two things were done, mainly. Both are related to amendments made to the law last year. Regarding the problems identified by the commissioner in connection with the multiple levels of authority involved in the assessments, it is precisely for that reason that the assessment of major projects that are subject to in-depth studies was entrusted to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. It was to avoid having several levels of authority legally responsible for conducting assessments of the same projects. (...) The other change that took place since the report of the commissioner results from the Supreme Court decision handed down last year in the MiningWatch case, in connection with the scope of the project. The court clearly indicated that the scope of the project must be congruent with the scope that was originally proposed by the promoter. (...)
		Mr. Bruce Hyer (Thunder Bay—Superior North, NDP): One of your five points dealt with the self-assessment model in CEAA. The commissioner and you as well have repeatedly raised the issue of cumulative impacts and how we deal with them, and of the inability so far of the agency to deal with them effectively. (...) The commissioner felt that screenings were not being done well. Would you agree? And is it a problem within the act? Do we need to change something in the act to make it more effective, or is it just poor coordination by the agency in terms of how they're administering the act now, or both?
		Mr. Richard Lindgren (Counsel, Canadian Environmental Law Association): (...) I agree with the commissioner that there have been screenings of questionable quality—let's put it that way. But I've seen some good screenings, too. This identifies a need for perhaps better outreach and better education for people who are doing the screenings, so that they fully understand their legal obligations in terms of environmental content. (...)
		Mr. Bruce Hyer: The commissioner also recommended that CEAA should deal better with coordination between various agencies concerning scoping and various things. (...)
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	November 24, 2011	Statutory Review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act Mr. R. Liam Mooney (Vice-President, Safety, Health, Environment and Quality, Regulatory Relations, Cameco Corporation): (...) The 2009 report of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development cited a number of these problems, specifically noting that the federal EA process suffers from systemic delays, lack of coordination, and focuses on expensive and frustrating process without being able to demonstrate value to the environment or society. (...) ----- N.B. The Saskatchewan Mining Association used the same quote in a previous E&SD Committee hearing as well as in a hearing before the Natural Resources Committee on Resource Development in Northern Canada.

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FINANCE	November 03, 2011	<p>Pre-budget consultations 2011</p> <p>Mr. Andrew Van Iterson (Manager, Green Budget Coalition): (...)We're highlighting three opportunities to make progress on water: upgrading the terrible state of water and waste water infrastructure systems in first nations, Inuit, and Métis communities; addressing the gaps in monitoring Canada's water quality and quantity that were identified by the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development in his fall 2010 report; and securing the health of three of Canada's diverse aquatic ecosystems in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, Lake Winnipeg, and the Northwest Territories. (...)</p>
FINANCE	December 01, 2011	<p>Supplementary Estimates (B) 2011-2012</p> <p>Mr. Peter Julian (Burnaby—New Westminster, NDP): I wanted to start by looking at the Auditor General. The total budgetary allocation is \$88,736,000. Is that the total that was provided to the Auditor General?</p> <p>Ms. Sherry Harrison (Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services Branch, Department of Finance): Mr. Chairman, we were asked today to appear concerning the Department of Finance's supplementary estimates. I don't have an official here with respect to the Auditor General's estimates.</p> <p>Mr. Peter Julian: No, but the amounts are on page 52 of the supplementary estimates. Under Auditor General, it shows program expenditures of \$78,297,061. I'm just looking for that supplementary estimate. Is that the allocation that goes to the Auditor General's office?</p> <p>Ms. Sherry Harrison: In the estimates, that number reflects the authorities to date this fiscal year for the Office of the Auditor General.</p> <p>Mr. Peter Julian: Okay, and it also talks about the International Labour Organization. Are you aware of how much, within that \$78 million, is provided for it?</p> <p>Ms. Sherry Harrison: I'm sorry, that question should be referred to the Office of the Auditor General.</p> <p>Mr. Peter Julian: Okay. Can you tell us, then, how these supplementary estimates relate to previous years?</p> <p>Ms. Sherry Harrison: No, I'm sorry. Mr. Chair, we came here to speak specifically to the Minister of Finance's department. We don't have officials here to speak to the estimates of the Auditor General.</p> <p>The Chair: These figures are from the main estimates, not the supplementary estimates.</p>

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		<p>Mr. Peter Julian: They're part of the supplementary estimates publication, as you know, Mr. Chair, so it's fair to ask those questions.</p> <p>I see from the supplementary estimates last year that for programming, it was \$78,768,000, and for this year, as far as program expenditures are concerned, it is \$78,297,061. So there's a deduction or a cut in the money accorded to the Auditor General's department of half a million dollars. I'm wondering, in the analysis that was done around the \$78 million, if you can answer that question or provide that information to the committee, as to why the amount was cut to the Auditor General.</p> <p>Ms. Sherry Harrison: Mr. Chair, we came prepared to speak to the department's estimates. We'd be pleased to refer those questions to the Auditor General for an answer on their portion of the estimates.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>N.B. The Office sent a response to the Chair, James Rajotte, on 13 December 2011</p>
FISHERIES AND OCEANS	October 06, 2011	<p>Briefing Session with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans</p> <p>Mr. Marc Grégoire (Commissioner, Canadian Coast Guard, Department of Fisheries and Oceans): (...)The environment commissioner did actually make a number of recommendations to the Coast Guard in order to improve their response. (...) The commissioner especially criticized us for our performance framework and risk analyses, which we are currently working on. We have the capability to respond at the moment. (...) The performance framework is the main problem. There is a lack of risk analyses. Our equipment is in place, but last winter, the commissioner said that we had not shown him in writing, in any our documents, that the equipment and the employees were spread across the country on a risk basis. (...) He also criticized the fact that we were perhaps not doing enough exercises. We have already put in place an exercise program. Interregional exercises have started, and a few exercises have been carried out with the U.S. Coast Guard. Actually, there was one about 15 days ago around Sault Ste. Marie.</p>
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ESTIMATES	June 14, 2011	<p>Main Estimates 2011-12: National Defence</p> <p>Mrs. Nycole Turmel (Hull—Aylmer, NDP): (...) The Auditor General's scathing critique last fall of the helicopter procurement and the Parliamentary Budget Officer's analysis of the planned acquisition of the F-35 fighter jets are two more examples of budgeting failures by this department. (...)</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>Mr. Alexandre Boulerice (Rosemont—La Petite-Patrie, NDP): (...) Dans son rapport, la vérificatrice générale soulignait le fait que seulement 4 p. 100 des 9 213 demandes avaient été traitées en mars 2010. C'est assez peu; ce n'est pas un très bon résultat. Elle soulignait également que les investissements et les gestes administratifs posés au cours des trois dernières années n'avaient pas réussi à régler le problème et redresser la situation. Les réservistes ont le droit de savoir quelle retraite</p>

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		ils vont pouvoir toucher et quand ils vont pouvoir la toucher. (...)
		Hon. Peter MacKay: (...) This is the first time that a new pension plan has been introduced by any government in 40 years. You can also appreciate that going back that amount of time naturally presents logistical challenges with respect to record-keeping for a plan that wasn't anticipated. While we take on board the recommendations of the Auditor General and are working extremely hard to meet some of those challenges and those recommendations, we are working within complex administrative issues. (...) The Auditor General's report of this spring has caused us to accelerate our efforts and to concentrate specifically on prioritizing those that are most in need of that pension and on getting their pensions in place. We are improving the current administration of the plan while actively working to implement a modern pension administration. We are also streamlining the business and the systems that are necessary to administer it. We are doing so responsibly and in a way that provides transparency both to the Auditor General and to taxpayers generally. We want to make sure there is integrity behind the system. I mentioned hiring new individuals, improving the internal controls, reporting and detecting any errors early on, and implementing the long-term plan to modernize the business process. All other recommendations that have been put forward by the Auditor General have been taken in by the department, and we are working to correct any past shortcomings. (...)
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ESTIMATES	June 20, 2011	Main Estimates 2011-12: Treasury Board Mr. Alexandre Boulerice (Rosemont—La Petite-Patrie, NDP): (...) La vérificatrice générale, le directeur parlementaire du budget et d'autres organismes ont souligné dernièrement et par les années passées que le processus d'examen des prévisions budgétaires posait encore et toujours des problèmes. (...) Depuis plusieurs mois, vous avez entre les mains les conclusions de la vérificatrice générale . Elle a recommandé qu'on modifie la façon dont les prévisions budgétaires sont rédigées de façon à les rendre beaucoup plus claires et uniformes ainsi qu'à nous permettre de faire adéquatement notre travail de parlementaires. J'aimerais dès le départ savoir quelles mesures vous avez prises dans la foulée des recommandations de la vérificatrice générale à cet égard. Hon. Tony Clement (President of the Treasury Board): (...) In accordance with the Auditor General's recommendation, I asked my colleagues to review the government's reporting practices in order to establish greater clarity when it comes to the horizontal initiatives, for example. It's important to understand that these procedures have been around for 99 years, I'm told. The roll-up procedure, for instance, that was used to report the G-8 legacy fund used a process that has been around for nearly a hundred years. That's not to excuse, but to inform you as to why a particular process was used at the time by the minister of infrastructure. Minister Baird and I have concluded, quite rightly, that the Auditor General was correct, that this procedure in these kinds of circumstances does not meet our test, our high standards for being transparent to Parliament. The Auditor General has indicated that this was not a deliberate malicious act by myself or by Minister Baird, but there was room for improvement. We have taken that to heart and I have given, as I mentioned, instructions to the secretary that we will come up with a new

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		<p>procedure for similar situations so that there can be a greater transparency and accountability to Parliament. (...)</p> <p>As the Auditor General said and wrote, every dollar was spent based on the priorities indicated by the municipalities, and we accounted for every amount spent. (...)</p> <p>The Auditor General has said that she would like to have seen more paperwork at the front end of that, and you know what? Looking back on it, I understand her concern. The good news for taxpayers is that at the middle and back end of this process there were contribution agreements signed. There were terms and conditions that were met and verified, and not a penny was spent in a way that was not consistent with the contribution agreements and the terms and conditions.</p> <p>Mr. Andrew Saxton (North Vancouver, CPC): (...) Would you explain how the capital fund deferral account helps departments save money so that we can further respect taxpayers' money?</p> <p>Hon. Tony Clement: (...) The Auditor General referred to this need for certainty in infrastructure funding way back in a 2006 report discussing the federal government expenditures management system, and we feel that this capital carry-over fund addresses that need for certainty and streamlines how government funds are used as well. (...)</p> <p>The Chair (Mr. Pat Martin (Winnipeg Centre, NDP)): (...) If the general public or if Parliament knew that there was a \$50 million plan embedded in the border infrastructure fund vote, do you think Canadians would have approved a legacy fund ten times any other precedent?</p> <p>Hon. Tony Clement: In answer to your question, Chair, I would say that if you actually review Hansard, you will see that this was a topic of some discussion in the House of Commons over the last two years. It's not as if this was a revelation that occurred as a result of the Auditor General's report, and indeed we were not hiding it. (...)</p>
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ESTIMATES	November 24, 2011	<p>Supplementary Estimates (B) 2011-2012 - Supplementary Estimates (B) 2011-2012</p> <p>Mr. Mathieu Ravignat (Pontiac, NDP): (...) The interim Auditor General has announced cuts of \$6.5 million annually to their \$88 million budget. The AG's office will also stop performing separate financial audits of close to 20 small government agencies, boards, and commissions. Of course, we know that these have been very useful in the past. For example, it was the Auditor General's office that uncovered problems at the Office of the Integrity Commissioner. My question to you is, why are you planning on cutting the Office of the Auditor General? Doesn't it save taxpayers' money by auditing?</p> <p>Hon. Tony Clement: Let me explain the situation. Of course, the Auditor General is an agent of Parliament and we respect his or her independence. (...) I did take it upon myself, as President of the Treasury Board, to write to these various other branches of our democracy and indicate to them that government departments and agencies are pursuing a particular plan to see if they can cut their budgets by 5% or up to 10%, and that I would appreciate their input, on a voluntary basis, to see</p>

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		<p>whether they could do the same.</p> <p>The Auditor General communicated back, quite keen to participate on a voluntary basis in this initiative, understanding that, perhaps, the Auditor General has to lead by example in some cases. (...)</p> <p>Mr. Mathieu Ravignat: (...) Who is going to perform the financial audits of close to 20 small government agencies?</p> <p>Hon. Tony Clement: (...) First of all, in case you're unaware, we have a lot of internal audit processes in government. It's not as if we rely on the Auditor General to be everywhere, because that would be impossible. There's a whole parallel system of auditing that takes place within government. (...)</p> <p>Ms. Michelle d'Auray (Secretary of the Treasury Board of Canada, Treasury Board Secretariat): (...) The Auditor General's proposals are really to look at.... They audit, for example, whether the reports have been produced to meet a standard. In those instances, the Auditor General is not removing himself or herself from a performance audit. On the contrary, they've identified areas where, in fact, their auditing of either reports or financial statements duplicates what is currently under way. So they are not removing themselves from their core practice, which is the performance audit. In effect, in a lot of the areas where there was duplication, the Auditor General is going to be increasingly relying on internal audit, as the minister indicated, because that is something the government has strengthened and improved.</p>
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ESTIMATES	December 01, 2011	<p>Supplementary Estimates (B) 2011-2012 - Supplementary Estimates (B) 2011-2012</p> <p>Mr. Bernard Trottier (Etobicoke—Lakeshore, CPC): (...) I'm sure the Auditor General has weighed in on the expenses related to the Building Canada expenditures in the last couple of years. Without getting into the detail, could you summarize, overall, the Auditor General's comments on the Building Canada expenditures, please?</p> <p>Ms. Yaprak Baltacioglu (Deputy Minister, Department of Transport): The Auditor General looked at the economic action plan. In two reports what has been tabled is that our department has done a very good job in terms of managing the program and ensuring that the costs were controlled, ensuring that appropriate management controls were put in place. We have done risk-based management of this program. I would probably say that in terms of the program administration, both the Auditor General's reports are very complimentary to the work of Infrastructure Canada, which I believe is a great little department.</p>
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ESTIMATES	December 08, 2011	<p>New Entity Shared Services Canada</p> <p>Mr. Bernard Trottier (Etobicoke—Lakeshore, CPC): (...) The former Auditor General raised concerns about aging IT in her spring 2010 report. She noted, as you did in your opening remarks, that the IT systems are supported by some very old infrastructure, that they're at risk of breaking down, and that this could have some very severe consequences.</p>

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		<p>Hon. Rona Ambrose (Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women): (...) As you pointed out, the Auditor General raised concerns about aging IT and said that many IT systems are supported by old infrastructure and are at risk of breaking down, which is why we're acting. (...)</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>Having an organized and coordinated system of electronic networks means it will be easier to detect and address security issues. That's one of the overarching reasons the Auditor General pointed out for moving ahead with this.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>The Auditor General has said that what is at stake here if we do not modernize our IT infrastructure is that services to Canadians will suffer. So our intention here, our motivation, is to make sure that we can continue to deliver those critical and essential services to Canadians.</p>
HUMAN RESOURCES, SKILLS AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE STATUS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES	September 29, 2011	<p>Introductory briefing with Services Canada</p> <p>Ms. Cheryl Fisher (Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Citizen Service Branch, Service Canada): (...) Quality assurance for us is really about continuous service improvement and about always making sure that we're responding to citizen needs and expectations. One of the key ways we do that is through feedback. This actually was acknowledged in the Auditor General's report last year. (...) One of the key recommendations or outcomes of the Auditor General's report was to consider comments from employees. We've just launched a process called the voice of the employee, using social media and some internal online methods to efficiently gather the collective experiences of our employees to improve service.</p>
HUMAN RESOURCES, SKILLS AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE STATUS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES	November 29, 2011	<p>Skills Development in Remote Rural Communities</p> <p>Ms. Jean Crowder (Nanaimo—Cowichan, NDP): (...) In addition, the Auditor General has made recommendations on the inadequacy of education for first nations, which the chamber of commerce referenced. We have two pieces at issue. One is the 2% funding cap that's been in place since 1995, and the other addresses the inadequacy of the per capita funding that first nations on reserve schools receive. (...) what efforts have been made to address that 2% cap when we know that aboriginal populations have grown, on average, about 11.1%, according to the Auditor General? (...)</p> <p>Ms. Sheilagh Murphy (Director General, Social Policy and Programs Branch, Education and Social Development Programs and Partnerships Sector, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): On the question of closing the funding gap for K-to-12, one of the things that our department has discovered is the issue of fair and equitable funding for first nations schools. This is one of the improvements we need to make, along with moving towards comparability in education. Comparability in education is not necessarily about additional funding; it's about making other changes as well.</p>
NATIONAL DEFENCE	December 01, 2011	<p>Maintaining the Readiness of the Canadian Forces</p>

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		<p>Mr. David Christopherson (Hamilton Centre, NDP): (...) Also, if I may, on the matter of lapsing funds, \$2.4 billion was lapsed. The department is allowed to carry over 1%. You're carrying over 12%, and 11% of that is going to be lost, because you can keep only 1%. That's the highest amount any department has been allowed to lapse. I want to bring to the attention of the ministers that in the 2009 Auditor General report, this very matter was raised, and the Auditor General at the time, Madam Fraser, said this:</p> <p><i>The Department's financial management and monitoring of resources may not be adequate to support decision making by senior management. The lack of accurate and timely information for decision makers contributed to the lapsing of more than \$300 million in funding that was available during the 2007-08 fiscal year but is now permanently unavailable to Nation Defence.</i></p> <p>(...) I'd like the witnesses to address why an issue that was previously identified by the Auditor General is getting worse, particularly an issue the department responded was going to be fixed. (...)</p> <p>Hon. Peter MacKay (Minister of National Defence): (...) This is the critical point, Mr. Christopherson, that you're referring to in regard to the Auditor General's comments. It was, in fact, as a result of that report you're referencing that the carry-over amount was elevated. It used to be that the Department of National Defence had a 1% carry-over. It is now 2.5% as a direct result of that report. (...)</p> <p>Mr. Kevin Lindsey (Assistant Deputy Minister, Chief Financial Officer, Finance and Corporate Services, Department of National Defence): (...) I would add too that with respect to the Auditor General, she did note that \$300 million in 2007-08. That figure is included in the data I've just given you. I would emphasize, too, that in testimony either at this or the public accounts committee, the Auditor General acknowledged that the carry-forward provision was far too low, and she ultimately advocated that the department increase that provision. Had the increased provision been in place in 2007-08, that \$300 million she referred to would not have lapsed. (...)</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>Mr. Robert Fonberg (Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence): (...) We have taken into account virtually all of what the Auditor General had to say and we have indeed improved. I think, as the CFO has tried to explain, a number of events last year drove us into the lapse situation that we had—some well beyond our control. (...)</p> <p>Mr. David Christopherson: With respect, that's what was said in 2009 when we held the hearing—that it was an anomaly. We're hearing the same language. We were looking at \$300 million when the Auditor General said you had a problem and that this was unacceptable. Now the number is \$950 million and you're sitting there telling us that things are getting better. I don't see how.</p> <p>Mr. Robert Fonberg: (...) At 2.5% (...) This is one of the adjustments we have actually made as a result of that Auditor General's report. It's one of a number of internal adjustments to track...much more carefully. And I can tell you, especially after last year and some of the work that we did with some forecasting companies and others, that we expect to have virtually no</p>

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		unintended lapse this year. We take account of what's happened in the past and we get better year after year after year.
NATURAL RESOURCES	December 05, 2011	<p>Resource Development in Northern Canada</p> <p>Mr. François Lapointe (Montmagny—L'Islet—Kamouraska—Rivière-du-Loup, NDP): In a recent report, Scott Vaughan, the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development, wrote, of the environmental effects of the oil sands, that data are at best incomplete and at worst mediocre or non-existent, and make it impossible to conduct a proper assessment. To what extent was your organization involved in those assessments? Do you agree with the commissioner's conclusions to any extent?</p> <p>Ms. Helen Cutts (Vice-President, Policy Development Sector, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency): Yes, we agree with his assessment. It is necessary for us to look at the methods to assess cumulative effects better. What he's asked is that when we have some information from the cumulative effects assessment in one particular assessment to use it in future ones. (...) The other area the commissioner mentioned was that the guidance materials need to be up to date. Now, the commissioner did not examine the guidance materials per se. He did not criticize our guidance materials but said we should examine them to see that they include the latest information on how to access cumulative effects.</p>
OFFICIAL LANGUAGES	November 22, 2011	<p>Evaluation of the Roadmap: Improving Programs and Service Delivery</p> <p>Mr. Yvon Godin (Acadie—Bathurst, NDP): (...) Je veux seulement qu'on inscrive dans le procès-verbal que je n'aurais pas dépensé 185 000 \$ pour engager un chasseur de têtes afin qu'il trouve un vérificateur général qui n'est pas capable de parler le français. (...) Cela fait 20 ans que les vérificateurs généraux sont bilingues, et le gouvernement se tourne de bord et dit avoir le droit de choisir quelqu'un qui est unilingue anglophone car les anglophones aussi ont le droit d'avoir des emplois. (...)</p> <p>M. Royal Galipeau (Ottawa—Orléans, PCC): (...) Puisqu'on soulève cette question à répétition, à chaque réunion, j'aimerais en ce moment me servir des quelques minutes qu'on m'accorde pour souligner que j'étais un des députés les plus déçus de la nomination d'un vérificateur général qui n'est pas bilingue. (...)</p> <p>M. Yvon Godin: Le vérificateur n'a jamais postulé pour l'emploi. Je veux seulement m'assurer que c'est noté.</p>
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS	September 28, 2011	<p>Committee Business – AG Reports</p> <p>Mr. Guy Caron (Rimouski-Neigette—Témiscouata—Les Basques, NDP): (...) Le travail a été fait par le comité précédent</p>

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		<p>pour 7 de ces 14 rapports. Ces rapports ont été préparés et déposés lors de la dernière législature. Malheureusement, on a assisté à la dissolution du Parlement avant d'obtenir une réponse du gouvernement. La motion vise donc à faire en sorte que ces 7 rapports, qui portent principalement sur les rapports présentés à l'automne et au printemps 2010 par la vérificatrice générale ainsi que sur un rapport concernant le Budget principal des dépenses 2010-2011, soient déposés de nouveau, pour obtenir une réponse du gouvernement à ces recommandations.</p> <p>Trois des chapitres suivants portent sur des éléments du rapport de la vérificatrice générale auxquels on a travaillé, mais le comité n'a pas encore discuté de ce rapport. Trois autres chapitres du rapport de la vérificatrice générale passé portent sur des éléments que le comité doit encore étudier et pour lesquels le travail doit encore être fait, notamment, par l'audition de témoins supplémentaires.</p> <p>Le dernier rapport qui reste à faire porte sur le rapport du Comité permanent des comptes publics déposé en 2010. Par conséquent, l'avis de motion qui est présenté est très simple. On demande qu'à compter d'octobre 2011, ce comité puisse commencer à étudier ces rapports, afin de pouvoir faire le travail qui a été entamé par la vérificatrice générale et par le précédent Comité permanent des comptes publics. On doit s'assurer de le faire d'une manière qui pourra se marier de manière naturelle avec l'étude du rapport qui a été déposé en mai par la vérificatrice générale. On doit le faire d'une façon conforme aux traditions du comité, c'est-à-dire en assurant l'alternance entre les rapports précédents qu'il reste à étudier et le rapport qui a été déposé plus récemment.(...)</p> <p>Hon. Gerry Byrne (Humber—St. Barbe—Baie Verte, Lib.): (...) I'm hoping we can adopt this particular motion, the work of the Auditor General and the previous reports. Because of the circumstance of the election and other things, we weren't able to get to a lot of business. This is very important business. (...)</p>
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS	November 02, 2011	<p>G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund</p> <p>Hon. Tony Clement (President of the Treasury Board): (...) As the members of this committee know, in order to maximize accountability to taxpayers, our government consulted the Auditor General at the time and proactively asked her to look not only at the expenses of the G8 summit, but also at those of the G20 summit. (...)The Auditor General fully investigated the G-8 fund and confirmed that every penny spent is accounted for, and has also clearly stated that there is no reason for any further audit of the fund. In fact, just recently, the interim Auditor General, while testifying before this parliamentary committee, reaffirmed this position. In her report however, the then Auditor General did make recommendations to improve the administrative processes. This includes the process I outlined just a couple of minutes ago, in which I asked local municipal officials to prioritize their own project submissions.</p> <p>I can assure you that I have taken the Auditor General's recommendations with regard to the administration of the intake process very seriously, and I certainly accept her conclusions. In hindsight, it may have been better for infrastructure officials to review all 242 initial proposals and not simply encourage the local mayors to collaborate and focus their requests in the interests of efficiency and time. It is worth reiterating, however, that every penny of the G-8 infrastructure fund was accounted for. The Auditor General's report is clear on this. (...)</p>

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		<p>Mr. Charlie Angus (Timmins—James Bay, NDP): (...) I'm concerned, because the Auditor General told us there was no paper trail. (...) Would you submit the projects that came in on this homemade piece of paper to our committee? The Auditor General didn't have any projects on that. How many were there? Could you give them to us?</p> <p>(...) The Auditor General said they had never seen anything in their entire career with that absolute lack of documentation.</p> <p>Hon. Tony Clement: Well, Mr. Angus, I can assure you and your colleagues on this committee that all documentation that was requested of me by the Auditor General was forwarded to the Auditor General, and then she based her conclusions.</p> <p>The issue for the Auditor General, if I may be so bold, is that she was looking for documentation not only on the 33 projects that were submitted to Minister Baird; she was looking for documentation relating to the 242 proposals.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>Mr. Bev Shipley (Lambton—Kent—Middlesex, CPC): (...) It's interesting; we create public trust in many ways, and one of them was raised in this Auditor General's report. As the interim Auditor General said, it is clear that the government received the goods and services it paid for: "It got what it paid for." (...)</p> <p>Mr. Guy Caron (Rimouski-Neigette—Témiscouata—Les Basques, NDP): (...) J'aimerais résumer la présente situation. On a souvent fait mention des 32 projets. La vérificatrice générale a eu l'occasion de revoir les 32 projets. (...) J'aimerais vous parler d'une conclusion de la vérificatrice générale qui me préoccupe particulièrement. La vérificatrice générale a dit qu'elle avait demandé au Bureau de gestion des sommets de fournir toute documentation indiquant comment le bureau avait été impliqué dans l'examen ou la sélection des projets. La vérificatrice générale nous a affirmé que le bureau n'avait pas été impliqué dans l'examen ou la sélection des 242 projets, mais qu'il avait tenu des séances d'information pour les communautés locales sur le sommet du G8.</p> <p>Quand on regarde les procès-verbaux qu'on a obtenus, on peut noter, entre autres, la présence de M. Gérald Cossette, qui était le responsable du Bureau de gestion des sommets. Il était également sous-ministre adjoint pour les Affaires étrangères. Je présume que la vérificatrice générale lui a parlé. Je présume qu'elle a parlé également à d'autres responsables. Cependant, il n'y a pas eu de réponse de la part de ces gens qui étaient impliqués dans le processus. Je le dis parce que nos courriels nous indiquent qu'il était impliqué. Le ministère des Affaires étrangères, ou le Bureau de gestion des sommets, a-t-il induit la vérificatrice générale en erreur?</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>Ms. Michelle d'Auray (Secretary of the Treasury Board of Canada, Treasury Board Secretariat): (...) To pick up on the comment that the minister made, we agree with the Auditor General's recommendation about greater clarity. It is a technical process we have that when a subprogram is a subset of a program, in this instance the border infrastructure fund, we roll up all of the subprogram elements into the main program heading. It's a technical aggregation, and in that sense, it is appropriate for us to do that. We have done that for over a hundred years. (...) We have agreed with the Auditor General's recommendations, and in fact have taken steps to ensure that in the future when those differences in program elements are</p>

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		substantial, the subprogram elements will be separated from the programs, and the elements in the funds attributed to those will be clearly set out. (...)
		Mr. Andrew Saxton: I have a question for the secretary of the Treasury Board. The Auditor General in her report recommended that changes be made to the estimates process. As Minister Baird has mentioned, some of those processes were in place for over 100 years. Can you briefly describe to us what changes are being made to the estimates processes?
		Ms. Michelle d'Auray: We have instituted two things within the Treasury Board Secretariat based on the Auditor General's advice. First, for initiatives of a horizontal nature, we have described with greater detail in the estimates. (...) We have also instituted some very clear guidelines inside our organization, because we're the ones that provide departments with their estimates sheets for them to sign off. Where there are specific subprogram elements that provide different parameters or additional parameters to existing programs, those will now be listed separately. (...)
PUBLIC SAFETY AND NATIONAL SECURITY	June 21, 2011	RCMP Commissioner selection criteria Mr. Francis Scarpaleggia (Lac-Saint-Louis, Lib.): (...) As you know, the Auditor General just came out with a report saying there are significant resource problems that are forcing the force to abandon some of its core duties. What the government is saying in the criteria is that what is needed is somebody who will impose greater limits on resources. Mr. Jasbir Sandhu (Surrey North, NDP): (...) One of the things pointed out in the Auditor General's report was that the government has failed to negotiate a contract with the provinces. Also, it has failed to define the roles and responsibilities of the RCMP as to how they're going to be funded. They have failed to negotiate that with the provinces over the years. That has been consistent over many, many years, and that's one of the major findings of the AG's report. (...) Mr. Graham Flack (Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Public Safety): (...) The Auditor General's focus was on federal policing services, many of which are provided not necessarily on a cost recovery basis to provinces. I give the example of forensic science as one where over time the federal government has been providing services to other jurisdictions, and the Auditor General called for further clarification around who the payers of those services were going to be and on what basis those services were going to be provided. (...)
PUBLIC SAFETY AND NATIONAL SECURITY	November 24, 2011	Bill C-19, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act Dr. Gary Mauser (Professor Emeritus, Institute for Canadian Urban Research Studies, Simon Fraser University, As an Individual): (...) The fourth point is that the data in the long-gun registry are of such poor quality that they should be destroyed. The many errors and omissions in the long-gun registry vitiate its utility for police and courts. The Auditor General

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		twice found that the RCMP could not rely upon the registry on account of the large number of errors and omissions. (...)
		Mr. Greg Illerbrun (Firearms Chairman, Past-President, Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation): (...) What is so offensive about this legislation? Former Auditor General Sheila Fraser summed it up best when she stated that the initial focus was to use the registry information to target high-risk cases, but this was expanded to regard all gun owners in the same way, as the use of firearms is a "questionable activity" that requires strong controls. This law targets law-abiding citizens, but does little to stop the criminal use of firearms. (...)
TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES	November 23, 2011	<p>National Public Transit Strategy</p> <p>Mr. Jamie Nicholls (Vaudreuil-Soulanges, NDP): (...) I was looking over the Auditor General's report yesterday with respect to the economic action plan. I noticed one of the lessons learned was that during the applications process, planning professions, such as engineers, architects, landscape architects, and so on, should be engaged right from the beginning.</p> <p>Wouldn't it be helpful, in terms of planning our transportation network, to have those planners involved in developing a federal national public transport strategy?</p> <p>Mr. Taki Sarantakis (Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Communications Branch, Infrastructure Canada): (...) with capital costs it's very easy to be able to show what's incremental and what is something that you were going to do anyway. With operating costs and salaries it's much less clear. (...) So we don't want to be in a situation where we're just substituting federal tax dollars for other tax dollars. In previous programs that the government has run, that's been criticized by the Auditor General. Our capacity to show that the federal dollars are really incremental is much easier on the capital side than it is on the operating side.</p>

No substantial references in these committees:

- Canadian Heritage
- Foreign Affairs and International Development
- Health
- Industry, Science and Technology
- International Trade
- Justice and Human Rights
- Procedure and House Affairs (mentioned in passing)
- Status of Women
- Veterans Affairs

**Pages 294 to / à 295
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Dear Senator Day:

This letter is in response to questions posed by Senators during my appearance before the Standing Committee on National Finance January 31st, 2012.

Let me start by assuring you that all suggestions for audits that were provided during the meeting have been duly noted. I can certainly appreciate that parliamentarians have individual concerns that they feel need to be subjected to a performance audit. I believe that the topics presented do merit further consideration.

Panel of Parliamentarians on the funding and oversight of Officers of Parliament:

The Panel was introduced on a pilot basis in 2005 in response to concerns from the Officers of Parliament and several committees of the House of Commons and Senate that independence from government may be compromised by the fact that the Treasury Board determines the amount of funding available to the Officers of Parliament. A 2008 independent review of the pilot project concluded that "it had achieved the key objective of reducing the perception of conflict of interest that was inherent in the pre-existing process".

The Panel itself has not reconvened since the beginning of the 41st Parliament. In the past, the Speaker of the House of Commons chaired the Panel and several MPs have participated as members over the years.

We believe that as a matter of principle, our level of funding must be determined in an objective manner, either in the form of the Panel or some other mechanism that guarantees our financial independence.

In response to the question on how accountability of Officers of Parliament can be enhanced, there are several options available to Parliamentarians. They could, for example, examine our estimates, performance reports and plan and priorities. They could invite us to appear before committees and discuss the results of our internal audit reports. They could ask us about the qualifications of the external members of our audit committee and review the reports of the committee.

Selection of audit topics:

It may be helpful to provide further explanation as to how we select topics for our performance audits. The Office begins by conducting an analysis for each sector of the federal apparatus, for example, human resource management, law and order, oversight, procurement and asset management, revenue collection, health of Canadians etc.... This process involves reviewing many government documents—including departmental performance reports and plans, risk analyses, sustainable development strategies, key internal audit and program

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evaluations—as well as any existing parliamentary committee reports. We also conduct interviews with departmental officials, external stakeholders, and non-governmental experts, to determine what they consider to be areas of greatest risk for the activities or programs under review. The key is to determine the extent to which a particular program activity runs the risk of not meeting its objectives.

This information is juxtaposed against our resources and choices are made for a 3-year period. While modifications can be and are made to the list, there must be a convincing argument that, as a whole, selected topics represent the most relevant areas to audit.

Information that we receive from parliamentarians feeds into this process. A request from a parliamentary committee will necessarily carry more weight than individual requests because it represents a broader constituency. Assuming the area in question falls within our mandate and that we have the resources to conduct a cost-efficient review, serious consideration will be given to conducting an audit in response to a formal request from a committee.

Follow-up on previous audits:

In terms of follow-up on previous audit findings, the determination is largely based on the severity of the problem and the probability that it will remain unfixed. We would not typically follow up within two years so as to allow enough time for the department(s) involved to actually implement our recommendations. Every two years we provide parliamentarians with a Status Report on selected topics. Our most recent Status Report was tabled in June last year.

Parliamentary committees play a very valuable role in this process by inviting departmental and OAG officials for hearings and by issuing reports with their own recommendations. The action plans in which departments describe how they will implement our recommendations can provide a concrete basis for the discussion.

Working with our provincial counterparts:

During the hearing I was also asked about whether or not we collaborate with our provincial counterparts on areas that are common to the federal and provincial government. I would like to take this opportunity to inform the members of the following as an example of several collaborative audits in recent years.

In 2010 we published a report entitled *Electronic Health Records in Canada—An Overview of Federal and Provincial Audit Reports*. This was the culmination of work that was harmonized with six of our provincial counterparts, based on audit work we had conducted in our respective jurisdictions.

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I have also attached, as an appendix, an earlier response to your committee clerk regarding the question on the financial audits that we propose to no longer conduct. We are currently working with government officials for the necessary changes to existing orders in council and legislation.

I do hope that this information provides clarification to some of the questions asked. I look forward to working closely with the committee on the review of our audit findings.

Please feel free to contact me directly or Jocelyne Therrien if further information is required.

000000

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: February 2, 2012 2:22 PM
To: Duhamel, Liette
Subject: letter to Senator Day
Attachments: Dear Senator Day.docx

**Pages 297 to / à 298
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Page 299

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Pages 300 to / à 302
are under consultation
sont sous consultation

**Pages 303 to / à 304
are under consultation
sont sous consultation**

Page 305

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Page 306

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 27, 2012 1:01 PM
To: Turner, Jodi
Cc: Duhamel, Liette
Subject: RE: Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Absolutely !

Jocelyne Therrien

Senior Principal, Parliamentary and International Relations | Première directrice principale, Relations parlementaires et internationales
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
C.D. Howe Building, 240 Sparks Street, West Tower | Édifice C.D. Howe, 240, rue Sparks, tour ouest
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G6
jocelyne.therrien@oag-bvg.gc.ca
Telephone | Téléphone 613-952-0213 (4352)
Facsimile | Télécopieur 613-957-0474
Teletypewriter | Téléréimprimeur 613-954-8042

From: Turner, Jodi [<mailto:TURN@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: January 27, 2012 12:46 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: RE: Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Hi Jocelyne,

That's great! Would you please send your official title (dans les deux langues) and we will add you to the meeting notice?

Also, with respect to opening comments, if you could please bring 20 English copies and 15 French copies we would be most grateful.

Many thanks,

Jodi

From: Therrien, Jocelyne [<mailto:Jocelyne.Therrien@oag-bvg.gc.ca>]
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2012 12:44 PM
To: Turner, Jodi
Subject: Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Hi Jodi,

I just wanted to let you know that the AG has asked me to participate in the meeting. The AG is very focussed on wanting to provide good service to Parliamentarians and so he wishes to emphasize that point by bringing me along as the person responsible for parliamentary liaison. I don't see a need to change the Notice but I thought that you may want to have this information. Please let me know if this creates a problem for you.

000307

Jocelyne

From: Turner, Jodi [<mailto:TURN@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: January 25, 2012 3:46 PM

To: Therrien, Jocelyne

Subject: RE: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Hi Jocelyne,

Thanks very much for your email. I will send a confirmation email with the room number as soon as it is confirmed later tomorrow afternoon. I can also send you the meeting attendance on Monday. I anticipate there may be at least one replacement.

I will ensure the Chair, Sen. Day, is aware of the AG's limitations in terms of speaking to work done by his predecessors.

Thanks again for all of your help! I look forward to meeting you on Tuesday. Until then, have a great evening!

Jodi

From: Therrien, Jocelyne [<mailto:Jocelyne.Therrien@oag-bvg.gc.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2012 12:41 PM

To: Turner, Jodi

Subject: RE: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Hi Jodi:

The Auditor General is very much looking forward to meeting with the members. I have given him the profiles of the members of the committee so that he can familiarize himself. If you know of other Senators who may be attending, I would be grateful if you could let me know.

I wanted to also highlight the fact that it will be impossible for the AG to speak about chapters that have been presented to Parliament in the past. He was not involved at all in any of that work so he would not be able to respond in any way that would be helpful to the members.

He is working on an opening statement. It will be brief. We will bring French and English copies with us for everyone.

I am keeping an eye on the notices of meetings. So far, we have Room 9 of the Victoria Building in our calendars.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Jocelyne

From: Turner, Jodi [<mailto:TURNEJ@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]

Sent: January 20, 2012 11:59 AM

To: Therrien, Jocelyne

Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée

Subject: RE: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Hi Jocelyne,

This is excellent – thanks for confirming so quickly! I will get back to you early next week to confirm the room number for the committee meeting.

Have a great weekend!

Best,

Jodi

000308

From: Therrien, Jocelyne [<mailto:Jocelyne.Therrien@oag-bvg.gc.ca>]
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2012 11:56 AM
To: Turner, Jodi
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: RE: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Hi Jodi:

Thank you for your e-mail. I wish you the very best for the coming year also.

It will be a pleasure for Mr. Ferguson to appear before the committee to talk about his background and what he hopes to achieve etc.... This is a good opportunity for all.

Jocelyne

From: Turner, Jodi [<mailto:TURNJ@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: January 20, 2012 9:02 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee
Importance: High

Good morning Jocelyne,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season!

The Senate National Finance Committee respectfully requests a meeting with the new Auditor General, Mr. Michael Ferguson, on Tuesday, January 31 from 9:30 am – 10:30 am. The intent behind the appearance is simply introductory in nature – to introduce Mr. Ferguson to the committee, and to provide the committee with an opportunity to learn what Mr. Ferguson hopes to achieve in the office of the Auditor General, a bit about his background and vision for the future.

The location of the meeting is yet to be confirmed, but we generally meet in room 9, Victoria Building, which is at the corner of Wellington and O'Connor (140 Wellington Street).

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest opportunity as to Mr. Ferguson's availability.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Best,

Jodi

Jodi Turner
Committee Clerk/Greffière de comité
The Senate/Le Sénat
Tel: 613-990-4995 Fax: 613-947-2104
turnej@sen.parl.gc.ca
Toll Free/Sans frais: 1-800-267-7362

000309

000310

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: January 27, 2012 7:41 AM
To: Frappier, Julie; Therrien, Jocelyne; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Dupuis, Veronique; Wheeler, Susan; Desjardins, Ghislain; O'Shaughnessy, Shailagh; Gallagher, Katherine
Subject: Notice of meeting - Senate National Finance - Jan 31 2012
Attachments: 2012-01-31 Notice of Meeting.docx



SENATE COMMITTEES DIRECTORATE

DIRECTION DES COMITÉS DU SÉNAT

(French text follows / Le texte français suit)

NATIONAL FINANCE

NOTICE OF MEETING

Tuesday, January 31, 2012

9:30 a.m.

Room 9, Victoria Building 140 Wellington Street

Televised

Webcast of Senate Meetings

AGENDA

The expenditures set out in the Main Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012.

WITNESSES

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Office of the Auditor General of Canada

Michael Ferguson, Auditor General of Canada

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Office of the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner of Canada

Mario Dion, Commissioner

With reporting and interpretation.

Use [this link](#) to obtain the latest information about this meeting.

FINANCES NATIONALES

AVIS DE CONVOCATION

Le mardi 31 janvier 2012

9 h 30

000311

Pièce 9, édifice Victoria 140, rue Wellington
Télévisée
Diffusion sur le Web

ORDRE DU JOUR

Les dépenses prévues dans le Budget principal des dépenses pour l'exercice se terminant le 31 mars 2012.

TÉMOINS

9 h 30 - 10 h 30

Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
Michael Ferguson, vérificateur général du Canada

10 h 30 - 11 h 30

Commissariat à l'intégrité du secteur public du Canada
Mario Dion, commissaire

Avec transcription et interprétation.

Veuillez utiliser [ce lien](#) pour obtenir les dernières informations au sujet de cette réunion.

000312

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 26, 2012 3:58 PM
To: Duhamel, Liette
Subject: FW: NATIONAL FINANCE - Notice of Meeting for Tuesday, January 31, 2012 / FINANCES NATIONALES - Avis de convocation pour le mardi 31 janvier 2012
Attachments: 2012-01-31 Notice of Meeting.docx

From: Martineau, Brigitte [mailto:MARTIB@SEN.PARL.GC.CA]

Sent: January 26, 2012 3:55 PM

To: Callbeck, Catherine; Carignan, Claude; Cowan, Jim; Day, Joseph; Dickson, Fred; Eggleton, Art; Finley, Doug; Gerstein, Irving; LeBreton, Marjory; Marshall, Elizabeth; Nancy Ruth; Neufeld, Richard; Peterson, Robert; Ringuette, Pierrette; Runciman, Bob; Tardif, Claudette; Allen, Donovan / Office of Senator Day; Asselin, Marie-Pierre; SEN; Atcheson, Beth; Atchison, Beth (Policy Advisor - Nancy Ruth; D'Aoust, Eric; Dennis, Trudi; Dicks, Christian; Farrell, Mireille; Faucette, Paul; Fleury, Sylvain; Franco, Emile; Hamdy, Hashem; Harnden, Jennifer; Hutchinson, Shawn; Kagedan, Barbara; MacPhee, Lorraine; McCann, Sheila; McCavour, Cindy / Office of Senator Day; McGee, Debbie; McIlveen, Janet; Morin, Jean-Pierre; Nicholson, Melanie; Parker, Frank; Pen, Rinda; Raison, Barry; Redmond, Michelle; Reed, Christopher; Rosenburgh, Timothy; Roy-César, Edison; Russell, Marie; Simard, Sylvie; Slade, Jenna; Stone, Cheryl; Tancorre, Patty; Turner, Jodi; Vieille, Stephanie; Audcent, Mark; Blouin, Alana; Boulanger, Sylvie; Burbridge, Christine; Catering-Traiteur; Committees Reception; Commroom; Duval, Emilie Anne; Équipe - F & G - Team; Hebert, Jacques; Interpretation Services d'interprétation; Joiner, Kristin; Legault, Aimé; Longtin, Renee; Lovelady, Janet; Macgregor, Karma; Mackay, David; McLaren, Amanda; Melo, Sandy; Molzan, Michael; Montgomery, Christopher; Moss-Norbury, Vanessa; Press Gallery; Press Gallery; Press Gallery; Sogomonian, Artour; Thibedeau, Lisa; Tipdoc; Variyan, Carlene

Subject: NATIONAL FINANCE - Notice of Meeting for Tuesday, January 31, 2012 / FINANCES NATIONALES - Avis de convocation pour le mardi 31 janvier 2012

Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2012 3:49 p.m.

Subject: NATIONAL FINANCE - Notice of Meeting for Tuesday, January 31, 2012 / FINANCES NATIONALES - Avis de convocation pour le mardi 31 janvier 2012



SENATE COMMITTEES DIRECTORATE

DIRECTION DES COMITÉS DU SÉNAT

(French text follows / Le texte français suit)

NATIONAL FINANCE

NOTICE OF MEETING

Tuesday, January 31, 2012

9:30 a.m.

Room 9, Victoria Building 140 Wellington Street

Televised

Webcast of Senate Meetings

000313

AGENDA

The expenditures set out in the Main Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012.

WITNESSES

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Office of the Auditor General of Canada
Michael Ferguson, Auditor General of Canada

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Office of the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner of Canada
Mario Dion, Commissioner

With reporting and interpretation.

Use [this link](#) to obtain the latest information about this meeting.

FINANCES NATIONALES

AVIS DE CONVOCATION

Le mardi 31 janvier 2012

9 h 30

Pièce 9, édifice Victoria 140, rue Wellington

Télévisée

Diffusion sur le Web

ORDRE DU JOUR

Les dépenses prévues dans le Budget principal des dépenses pour l'exercice se terminant le 31 mars 2012.

TÉMOINS

9 h 30 - 10 h 30

Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
Michael Ferguson, vérificateur général du Canada

10 h 30 - 11 h 30

Commissariat à l'intégrité du secteur public du Canada
Mario Dion, commissaire

Avec transcription et interprétation.

Veuillez utiliser [ce lien](#) pour obtenir les dernières informations au sujet de cette réunion.

000314

Frappier, Julie

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 26, 2012 6:31 PM
To: Ferguson, Michael
Cc: Maxwell, Neil; Dubé, Louise
Attachments: PROXI-#668523-v1-2011 11 Report - Letter to Senate SC on Social Affairs E.DOCX

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mike :

The office of Senator Ogilvie called this afternoon, referring to the letter we sent to him as Chair of the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology (see below). This letter was sent to inform the committee of Chapter 4 of the November Report. If you recall, we send out a series of these letters to the various committees (House and Senate) whenever we present a report to Parliament with chapters that pertain to the committee's mandate.

Senator Ogilvie wishes to take us up on our offer and is asking to meet with someone from the office to discuss the findings in the chapter, either during the week of Feb 6th or week of Feb 13.

Neil knows the Senator as he and Louise witnessed before the committee in the fall on Electronic Health Records. However, if you would like to take this opportunity to meet with the Senator we could ask that the meeting take place during the week of Feb 13 and both you and Neil could go. Please let me know if you wish to participate. I believe that the Senator would not be fussed either way.

Thanks
Jocelyne

5 December 2011

The Honourable Kelvin K. Ogilvie, Senator
Chair
Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs,
Science and Technology
Senate of Canada
East Block, Room 236
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A4

Dear Senator Ogilvie:

The Auditor General's Fall 2011 Report, recently tabled in Parliament, contains references to government programs or issues that fall within your Committee's purview. The Report includes the following chapter that may be of interest to your Committee.

Chapter 4—Regulating Pharmaceutical Drugs—Health Canada

The focus of the audit was to determine whether Health Canada fulfilled its key responsibilities related to clinical trials, submission reviews, and post-market activities for the regulation of drugs.

Health Canada has taken steps to ensure the quality of its drug reviews. We found that the Department has increased the amount of information it discloses on approved drugs. However, it does not provide information on rejected submissions, on drugs withdrawn by manufacturers from the review process or on the status of drugs approved with conditions. Also, it has not delivered on its longstanding commitment to disclose more information about authorized clinical trials.

Health Canada is actively monitoring the safety of drugs already on the market, but is slow to assess the potential safety issues that it identifies. It sometimes takes more than two years to complete an assessment and provide Canadians with updated safety information. In addition, Health Canada has not determined what measures are needed to address the potential for conflicts of interest in its reviews of drug submissions.

My staff and I would be pleased to meet with your Committee or research staff to discuss the chapter.

For further information, please contact Jocelyne Therrien, Senior Principal, Parliamentary Liaison, at 613-952-0213, ext. 4352.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Ferguson, FCA
Auditor General of Canada

Encl.

cc: Hon. Art Eggleton, Senator, Deputy Chair
Ms. Jessica Richardson, Clerk

5 December 2011

The Honourable Kelvin K. Ogilvie, Senator
Chair
Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs,
Science and Technology
Senate of Canada
East Block, Room 236
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A4

Dear Senator Ogilvie:

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Health Canada is actively monitoring the safety of drugs already on the market, but is slow to assess the potential safety issues that it identifies. It sometimes takes more than two years to complete an assessment and provide Canadians with updated safety information. In addition, Health Canada has not determined what measures are needed to address the potential for conflicts of interest in its reviews of drug submissions.

.../2

My staff and I would be pleased to meet with your Committee or research staff to discuss the chapter.

For further information, please contact Jocelyne Therrien, Senior Principal, Parliamentary Liaison, at 613-952-0213, ext. 4352.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Ferguson, FCA
Auditor General of Canada

Encl.

cc: Hon. Art Eggleton, Senator, Deputy Chair
Ms. Jessica Richardson, Clerk

Therrien, Jocelyne

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 24, 2012 6:08 PM
To: Ferguson, Michael
Subject: draft opening statement

Mike – here is a first draft (unedited). Please let me know if this is basically what you were looking for.
Tks
Jocelyne

Thank you, Mr. Chair, for this opportunity to meet with all of you today. I am happy to answer any questions that the Honourable Senators may have. But first, with your indulgence, I would like to start by providing a bit of background information about myself and how I plan to fulfill my mandate. I will be brief.

As some of you may already know, I served five years as comptroller and the past year as Deputy Minister of Finance in New Brunswick. I also served five years, between 2005 and 2010, as the auditor general for the province, reporting to the New Brunswick legislature. I am also in my third term serving on the Public Sector Accounting Board, the organization that establishes accounting standards for Canadian governments. And I served one year as president of the New Brunswick Institute of Chartered Accountants.

My goal is to build on the excellent work of Sheila Fraser, just as she was able to build on the exemplary contribution made in the position by Denis Desautels. There is a tradition of excellence in the office, and I am committed to upholding the standards set by these two remarkable public servants.

In the 2 months that I have been in the position I have focussed my energy on getting to know the people who work in the Office and on learning about the audits that are currently being conducted. I am also getting to know some of the senior public servants within the federal government.

In the short-term, my plan is to stay the course. I do not anticipate any major changes. I have the good fortune of having joined an organization that is widely respected, and that from my vantage point appears to be very well run. I do not expect to have to make significant changes to the operations of the office.

The Office has always respected the mandate that it has been given – to provide information to Parliament gathered through a rigorous and objective process so that Parliament can in turn hold government accountable for its delivery of services to Canadians. I can commit to you today that we will maintain this integrity so that you can continue to rely on our work.

Honourable Senators, you will recall that there was some controversy regarding my language abilities during the nomination process. I wish to inform you that since that time I have experienced many hours of language training at the hands of a very strict teacher (?).

It is a very intensive and structured program that has been specifically adapted to my needs. I am confident that this method will lead to good results. I can assure you that I am personally committed to this process in recognition of the fundamental importance of achieving a functional level of bilingualism.

Mr. Chair, I would like to conclude by saying that I look forward to a productive relationship with this committee. I welcome your input and your advice. Part of the success of the Office of the Auditor General is its ability to maintain its relevance to the stakeholders of the Office, starting with Parliament as its primary client.

Unfortunately I am not in a position to answer any questions about reports presented by the previous Auditor General and the Interim Auditor General, but I would be more than happy to answer other questions you may have.

Thank you.

Page 321

is under consultation

est sous consultation

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 23, 2012 2:14 PM
To: Routliffe, Arthur; Latham, Jennifer; Lalande, Marc; Proulx, Claude; Lafleche, Anne-Marie
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: RE: Estimates Guide for Parliamentarians

If we can find a way of putting both languages on one page, that would be ideal. We need 450.

From: Routliffe, Arthur
Sent: January 23, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Latham, Jennifer; Therrien, Jocelyne; Lalande, Marc; Proulx, Claude; Lafleche, Anne-Marie
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: RE: Estimates Guide for Parliamentarians

We need to figure out how the covering letter will be handled...for instance:
How many covering letters do we need to print?
English and French, bilingual one page or two-sided? Our office letterhead is one side only.
Offset printing or laser copy. We will use the AG's Electronic signature.

From: Latham, Jennifer
Sent: January 23, 2012 11:26 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne; Lalande, Marc; Proulx, Claude; Lafleche, Anne-Marie
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Routliffe, Arthur; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: RE: Estimates Guide for Parliamentarians

Our target is to send the printed documents to Parliamentarians during the week of 20 Feb. As soon as we see the revised text this week, Anne-Marie will prepare a full production schedule.

~~~~~  
**Jennifer Latham**

**Director, Editorial Services | Directrice, Services de révision**

Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

240 Sparks Street / 240, rue Sparks

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G6

[jennifer.latham@oag-bvg.gc.ca](mailto:jennifer.latham@oag-bvg.gc.ca)

Telephone | Téléphone 613-952-0213 (2999)

Facsimile | Télécopieur 613-952-6390

Teletypewriter | Téléimprimeur 613-954-8042

---

**From:** Therrien, Jocelyne  
**Sent:** January 23, 2012 11:16 AM  
**To:** Latham, Jennifer; Lalande, Marc; Proulx, Claude; Lafleche, Anne-Marie  
**Cc:** Wheeler, Susan; Routliffe, Arthur; Gougeon, Marie-Josée  
**Subject:** RE: Estimates Guide for Parliamentarians

Yes – I think that 1,000 was the preferred number.

---

**From:** Latham, Jennifer  
**Sent:** January 23, 2012 10:57 AM  
**To:** Lalande, Marc; Proulx, Claude; Lafleche, Anne-Marie  
**Cc:** Wheeler, Susan; Routliffe, Arthur; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Therrien, Jocelyne  
**Subject:** Estimates Guide for Parliamentarians

**000322**

The AG has seen the design for the Estimates Guide and was impressed by it!

**Marc and Claude**, please go ahead with providing the specs to contracting so a printing contract can be arranged. Please note that a one-page Foreword has been added and maximum of 2 additional pages of text have been added. You should have the final text for layout by early next week. As for print-run . . .

**Susan and Jocelyne**, did you decide at the last meeting on a print-run of 1000?

**Anne-Marie**, please discuss the ISBN with the Library, and whether we will need a new one. The title will remain the same in both languages, but the text has changed considerably.

Title:

EN--- Examining Public Spending, Estimates Review: A Guide for Parliamentarians

FR--- Examen des dépenses publiques — Étude du Budget des dépenses : Guide à l'intention des parlementaires

~~~~~  
Jennifer Latham

Director, Editorial Services | Directrice, Services de révision

Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

240 Sparks Street / 240, rue Sparks

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G6

jennifer.latham@oag-bvg.gc.ca

Telephone | Téléphone 613-952-0213 (2999)

Facsimile | Télécopieur 613-952-6390

Teletypewriter | Téléimprimeur 613-954-8042

000323

Duhamel, Liette

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 20, 2012 12:00 PM
To: Turner, Jodi
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: RE: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Very good. Talk to you soon Jodi.

From: Turner, Jodi [<mailto:TURNER@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: January 20, 2012 11:59 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: RE: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Hi Jocelyne,

This is excellent – thanks for confirming so quickly! I will get back to you early next week to confirm the room number for the committee meeting.

Have a great weekend!

Best,

Jodi

From: Therrien, Jocelyne [<mailto:Jocelyne.Therrien@oag-bvg.gc.ca>]
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2012 11:56 AM
To: Turner, Jodi
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: RE: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee

Hi Jodi:

Thank you for your e-mail. I wish you the very best for the coming year also.

It will be a pleasure for Mr. Ferguson to appear before the committee to talk about his background and what he hopes to achieve etc.... This is a good opportunity for all.

Jocelyne

From: Turner, Jodi [<mailto:TURNER@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: January 20, 2012 9:02 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Request for Appearance before the Senate National Finance Committee
Importance: High

Good morning Jocelyne,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season!

The Senate National Finance Committee respectfully requests a meeting with the new Auditor General, Mr. Michael Ferguson, on Tuesday, January 31 from 9:30 am – 10:30 am. The intent behind the appearance is simply introductory in nature – to introduce Mr. Ferguson to the committee, and to provide the committee with an

000324

opportunity to learn what Mr. Ferguson hopes to achieve in the office of the Auditor General, a bit about his background and vision for the future.

The location of the meeting is yet to be confirmed, but we generally meet in room 9, Victoria Building, which is at the corner of Wellington and O'Connor (140 Wellington Street).

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest opportunity as to Mr. Ferguson's availability.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Best,

Jodi

Jodi Turner
Committee Clerk/Greffière de comité
The Senate/Le Sénat
Tel: 613-990-4995 Fax: 613-947-2104
turnej@sen.parl.gc.ca
Toll Free/Sans frais: 1-800-267-7362

000325

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 18, 2012 5:04 PM
To: Maxwell, Neil
Cc: Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: Dépliant révisé

Thanks for your feedback Neil.

Joc

From: Maxwell, Neil
Sent: January 18, 2012 5:00 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: Dépliant révisé

Hi Joc,

There is nothing in the works to rename or alter the Status Reports. That said, the more flexible the language, the less likely we will have to change it later. Your call.

Regards, Neil

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 17, 2012 9:45 AM
To: Maxwell, Neil
Cc: Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Wheeler, Susan
Subject: FW: Dépliant révisé

Neil:

Attached is the French version of the general brochure on OAG. It is in the process of being updated. MJ has made the technical changes that we were aware of and the changes to the gender of the references to the AG. Editorial staff will be changing all references to the term 'vérification' (to 'audit') and to 'gestion' (to 'performance').

Question for you: in the section on financial and performance audits we refer to the follow-up audits. Should we leave the reference to 'le rapport *Le Point*' as is? Or do we want to leave it more flexible and talk about 'periodic' reports? And will it be called 'le Point' for the foreseeable future?

Thanks

Joc

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: January 16, 2012 4:51 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Dépliant révisé

Jocelyne pour ta revue. Ai-je manqué quelque chose?
Évidemment, ils devront changer la terminologie en français pour les audits.

000326

MJ

PS le format est bizarre puisque c'est un copy/paste du doc pdf.

Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

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000327

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 18, 2012 5:04 PM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Cc: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: FW: Dépliant révisé

What would you suggest Susan ?

From: Maxwell, Neil
Sent: January 18, 2012 5:00 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: Dépliant révisé

Hi Joc,

There is nothing in the works to rename or alter the Status Reports. That said, the more flexible the language, the less likely we will have to change it later. Your call.

Regards, Neil

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 17, 2012 9:45 AM
To: Maxwell, Neil
Cc: Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Wheeler, Susan
Subject: FW: Dépliant révisé

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Thanks

Joc

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: January 16, 2012 4:51 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Dépliant révisé

Jocelyne pour ta revue. Ai-je manqué quelque chose?
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Marie-Josée Gougeon, M.Sc.

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Merci de penser à l'environnement avant d'imprimer

Please consider the environment before printing

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 18, 2012 1:11 PM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG; LIST-PX
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: Red Tape Commission - Commission sur la réduction de la paperasse

For your information.

The Honourable Tony Clement, President of the Treasury Board and Minister responsible for FedNor, today received the Red Tape Reduction Commission's Recommendations Report. Created through Canada's Economic Action Plan, the Commission, chaired by the Honourable Maxime Bernier, Minister of State (Small Business and Tourism) examined ways to spur job creation and economic growth through the elimination of unnecessary red tape.

<http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/media/nr-cp/2012/0118a-eng.asp>

L'honorable Tony Clement, président du Conseil du Trésor et ministre responsable de FedNor, a reçu aujourd'hui le rapport de recommandations de la Commission sur la réduction de la paperasse. Mise sur pied dans le cadre du Plan d'action économique du Canada, la Commission, présidé par l'honorable Maxime Bernier, ministre d'État (Petite Entreprise et Tourisme) a examiné des façons de stimuler la croissance économique et la création d'emploi par l'élimination de la paperasse inutile.

<http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/media/nr-cp/2012/0118a-fra.asp>

Gougeon, Marie-Josée

De: Therrien, Jocelyne
Envoyé: January 13, 2012 12:31 PM
À: Berthelette, Jerome; Barrett, Frank; Campbell, Ronnie
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Objet: FW: Senate invitation additions to reserves

Hi !

FYI - As you can see from below, the Senate Aboriginal Committee is inviting representatives from the Office to appear before the committee on ATRs at the end of February.

Please let me know if you would like to have a meeting with Mike about this.

Jocelyne

From: Zlotnick, Marcy [<mailto:ZLOTNM@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: January 13, 2012 11:05 AM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Heroux, Lyne
Subject: RE: Senate invitation additions to reserves

Thanks Jocelyne,

I have scheduled you in for **Wed. Feb. 29, 6:45-8:45 p.m.** I look forward to hearing from you once you have the names of your witnesses.

Marcy

From: Therrien, Jocelyne [<mailto:Jocelyne.Therrien@oag-bvg.gc.ca>]
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2012 10:50 AM
To: Zlotnick, Marcy
Subject: RE: Senate invitation additions to reserves

Thank you Marcy. Happy New Year to you also.

This should not be a problem, considering how well organized you are and with the ample advance notice. We will start to plan accordingly. I will contact you in a couple of weeks to let you know who our witnesses would be.

I note that the 29th is a Wednesday. Or perhaps you meant Tuesday the 28th ?

Cheers !

Jocelyne

From: Zlotnick, Marcy [<mailto:ZLOTNM@SEN.PARL.GC.CA>]
Sent: January 12, 2012 1:55 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: Senate invitation additions to reserves

Happy New Year, Jocelyne,

000331

The Aboriginal Peoples Committee of the Senate is undertaking a study on additions to reserves and is seeking testimony from a representative of your office. Details of the subject are set out below.

In June 2011, Canada as represented by the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, and First Nations as represented by the Assembly of First Nations National Chief agreed to a joint action plan to improve the long-term prosperity for First Nations people and all Canadians. The Canada-First Nations Joint Action Plan includes a commitment to “explore concrete initiatives aimed at unlocking the economic potential of First Nations, including improvements to the additions to reserve policy.”^[1]

The phrase “additions to reserve” refers to the process of adding land to existing reserves or adding land to new reserves.^[2] Some of the main issues and challenges related to ATR, as identified in various external studies of this issue (e.g. INAC, *Impact Evaluation of Contributions to Indian Bands for Land Management on Reserve*, September 2010; Auditor General of Canada, *Treaty Land Entitlement Obligations—Indian and Northern Affairs Canada*, Chapter 4 of the 2009 March Status Report of the Auditor General of Canada; Fiscal Realities, *Comparing Municipal Boundary Expansion to Additions to Reserve*, study commissioned by the First Nations Tax Commission, 2007):

The main concerns with the ATR process, as expressed by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, include the following:

- Length and complexity of the ATR process;
- Costs of environmental site assessments and surveys;
- Difficulties in reaching agreement on Municipal Service Agreements;
- Patchwork of laws on the transfer of sub-surface interests across provinces; and
- Implementation issues under the Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) process.

Witnesses for this study would be asked to provide their views and observations on the current ATR policy and its associated processes, and will be encouraged to offer their suggestions on how to overcome the various deficiencies with the current policy/process, as identified by various recent studies (as cited above).

The date I had in mind is Tues., Feb. 29, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Please contact me to advise whether this would be possible. Thank you.

Marcy Zlotnick

*B.A., LL.B.
Committee Clerk/Greffière de comité
Senate of Canada/Sénat du Canada
(613) 990-6080*

000332

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 12, 2012 6:19 PM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG; LIST-PX
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: PM announces changes in the senior ranks of the Public Service - le PM annonce des changements aux échelons supérieurs de la fonction publique

(L'anglais suit)

Le PM annonce des changements aux échelons supérieurs de la fonction publique

12 janvier 2012

Le Premier ministre Stephen Harper a annoncé aujourd'hui les changements suivants aux échelons supérieurs de la fonction publique :

Greta Bossenmaier, actuellement sous-ministre du Groupe de travail sur l'Afghanistan, devient première vice-présidente exécutive de l'Agence canadienne de développement international, à compter du 30 janvier 2012.

John L. Adams, actuellement chef du Centre de la sécurité des télécommunications Canada, devient conseiller supérieur auprès du Bureau du Conseil privé et est nommé « Skelton-Clark Fellow to the Queen's University School of Policy Studies », à compter du 30 janvier 2012.

John Forster, actuellement sous-ministre délégué de l'Infrastructure, devient chef du Centre de la sécurité des télécommunications Canada, à compter du 30 janvier 2012.

PM announces changes in the senior ranks of the Public Service

January 12, 2012

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced today the following changes in the senior ranks of the Public Service:

Greta Bossenmaier, currently Deputy Minister of the Afghanistan Task Force, becomes Senior Executive Vice-President of the Canadian International Development Agency, effective January 30, 2012.

John L. Adams, currently Chief of the Communications Security Establishment Canada, becomes Senior Advisor to the Privy Council Office and is named as Skelton-Clark Fellow to the Queen's University School of Policy Studies, effective January 30, 2012.

John Forster, currently Associate Deputy Minister of Infrastructure, becomes Chief of the Communications Security Establishment Canada, effective January 30, 2012.

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 11, 2012 8:28 AM
To: Cheng, Nancy
Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Subject: RE: being prepared for appearances before committees

Nancy:

Thank you for your very useful suggestions.

Jocelyne

From: Cheng, Nancy
Sent: January 10, 2012 5:51 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Cc: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: RE: being prepared for appearances before committees

Jocelyne,
My top three do's and don'ts are as follows:

DO's

- Be prepared – do our homework
- Listen carefully – some questions are comments and at times questions are buried in what seem to be staging before a TV camera. Try to find the question from within and do the best to answer it.
- Be respectful – regardless of the tone and nature of the question, members are doing their job and ours is to serve them and help them in their role.

DON'Ts

- Not to speculate – stay true to reported findings and not to stray into offering unaudited viewpoints
- Not to be defensive – keep our cool when members get hot and heavy in their questioning. Offer facts to rebut in a calm and composed way
- Not to answer when we don't have one – it's okay to say I don't know or that I do not have that information at this moment (and offer to follow up with one after the hearing).

As for the session itself, you may wish to consider having a panel of 2 or 3 speakers. Each could speak for 10 to 15 minutes to share their experience then open up to Q&A or discussion among panel speakers and participants. Speakers could be internal and external. For internal, Scott would be a great candidate given his extensive experience at hearings. For external, perhaps someone like Jim Mitchell and may be one more who has served as a former senior bureaucrat (DM or Assistant Secretary) and has testified often before committees.

I look forward to attending the info/training session.
Nancy

Nancy Cheng
Assistant Auditor General | Vérificateur général adjoint
Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada
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000334

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From: Therrien, Jocelyne

Sent: December 29, 2011 12:18 PM

To: Berthelette, Jerome; Campbell, Ronnie; Cheng, Nancy; DeJong, Terrance; Laplante, Maurice; Loschiuk, Wendy; MacLellan, Clyde; McMahon, Marian; Maxwell, Neil; Ricard, Sylvain; Vaughan, Scott; Wiersema, John

Cc: Wheeler, Susan; Duhamel, Liette; Dupuis, Veronique; Gougeon, Marie-Josée

Subject: FW: being prepared for appearances before committees

Dear all:

Susan and I are in the process of gathering ideas for an information/training session that would serve to assist those of you who are likely to appear before parliamentary committees. This stems from a request that was made recently by some of you at a meeting of the Executive Committee, just after the tabling of the November Report. The plan is to create a session that would also help you in any other situations in which you need to explain or answer questions about our reports, such as when dealing with the media.

We hope to get back to you shortly with a proposal. In the interim I would like to compile a friendly list of do's and don'ts for committee appearances that would serve (anonymously) as part of the information session. So, to all of you who have appeared before committees, we would appreciate hearing from you.

If you have any suggestions for the session we are planning, we would like to hear them also.

MERCI et à bientôt !

Jocelyne

000335

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Dupuis, Veronique
Sent: January 10, 2012 9:10 AM
To: Maxwell, Neil; Pickup, Michael; Smith, Anne-Marie; Therrien, Jocelyne; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Wheeler, Susan; Forsberg, Patricia; Guyot, Francoise; Levita, Leslie
Cc: Vaughan, Scott; Sloan, Bruce; Duhamel, Liette; Dassie, Amabile; Dugas Patry, Viviane; Karner, Elisabeth
Subject: PX Draft Federal Contaminated Sites and Their Impacts
Attachments: Cover Page - Federal Contaminated Sites and Their Impacts - CESD Spring 2012 report - Msg briefing 13 Jan 2012.docx; PX Draft - AG Message Briefing - Federal Contaminated Sites and Their Impacts.docx

Importance: High

Please find attached the draft chapter in subject for Friday's message briefing with the AG from 4:00-5:00pm

Bonne journée,

Véro

Véronique Dupuis, M.Sc.

Parliamentary Liaison Officer | Agente de Liaison avec le Parlement

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**of the Access to Information Act
de la Loi sur l'accès à l'information**

Pages 366 to / à 369
are not relevant
sont non pertinentes

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Dupuis, Veronique
Sent: January 5, 2012 3:55 PM
To: Maxwell, Neil; Smith, Anne-Marie; Therrien, Jocelyne; Gougeon, Marie-Josée; Wheeler, Susan; Forsberg, Patricia; Guyot, Francoise; Levita, Leslie
Cc: Duhamel, Liette; Berthelette, Jerome; Wheeler, Glenn; Montmarquet, Annie; Dugas Patry, Viviane; Sullivan, Ruth; Campbell, Ronnie
Subject: Documents for pre-tabling meeting - GNWT Status Report
Attachments: E 3 37 - GNWT - GTNO 009570 - 26-08-2010.DOCX; PROXI-#686441-v2-2012 GNWT Status Report News Release.docx; PROXI-#685253-v1-Briefing Notes - 2012-02-21 - NWT 2012 Status Report.docx

Importance: High

Please find attached the chapter, news release and briefing notes for next week's pre-tabling meeting on the GNWT Status Report.

Bon après-midi

Véronique

Véronique Dupuis, M.Sc.

Parliamentary Liaison Officer | Agente de Liaison avec le Parlement

Office of the Auditor General of Canada | Bureau du vérificateur général du Canada

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Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Therrien, Jocelyne
Sent: January 5, 2012 2:02 PM
To: Wheeler, Susan
Subject: FW: PROXI-#686854-v2-Tabling Day Schedule.DOCX
Attachments: PROXI-#686854-v2-Tabling Day Schedule.docx

Minor tweaks only.

From: Wheeler, Susan
Sent: January 5, 2012 12:36 PM
To: Therrien, Jocelyne
Subject: PROXI-#686854-v2-Tabling Day Schedule.DOCX

Hi, here's a sample tabling day schedule. Over to you!
Susan

AG Report Tabling Day Schedule

EVENT	TIME / LOCATION	COMMENTS
Preview and Briefing for MPs and Senators	8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Location: Parliament Hill	Reports will be available to MPs, Senators, and their staff beginning at 8 a.m. AG briefs MPs and Senators at 9 a.m.
Media Lock-Up	8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Location: C.D. Howe 240 Sparks Street (OAG)	Journalists will receive copies of reports and news releases. Audit teams will be available to answer questions. Journalists may file stories once the report is tabled shortly after 10 a.m.
Tabling	10 a.m. (approx.)	Report, news releases posted on OAG website.
News Conference	11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. <u>Location:</u> National Press Theatre (NPT) 150 Wellington	AG makes a short opening statement and then answers questions from journalists. Opening Statement to news conference posted on OAG website.

Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Gougeon, Marie-Josée
Sent: January 4, 2012 4:52 PM
To: Maxwell, Neil; Smith, Anne-Marie; Therrien, Jocelyne; Dupuis, Veronique; Wheeler, Susan; Forsberg, Patricia; Guyot, Francoise; Levita, Leslie
Cc: Dassie, Amabile; Latham, Jennifer; Duhamel, Liette; Dugas Patry, Viviane; Montmarquet, Annie
Subject: Message briefing - January 11, 2012 - Summary of Special Examinations 2011 - Spring 2012 Report -
Attachments: PROXI-#161938-v1-Cover sheet for PX drafts.DOC; E.1.35 - SPX-009562 - 24-08-2011.doc
Importance: High

Please find attached, documents for next week's message briefing.

Marie-Josée

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Dugas Patry, Viviane

From: Duhamel, Liette
Sent: December 20, 2011 12:13 PM
To: LIST-AG-DAG-AAG; LIST-PX; LIST-DX-EQUIVALENTS
Subject: Parliamentary summary / Sommaire parlementaire
Attachments: PROXI-#683974-v1-Weekly Parliamentary Summary - Dec 12-16 2011.docx

The parliamentary summary is attached. The summary includes:

- An update on bills in the House and Senate
- A list of tabled documents, and
- Information on Parliamentary Committee business

Vous trouverez ci-joint le sommaire parlementaire. Le sommaire comprend :

- Une mise à jour des projets de loi en Chambre et au Sénat
- Une liste des rapports déposés et
- De l'information au sujet des activités des comités parlementaires

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY December 12 - 16, 2011

**Extrait de Publnet (Non disponible en français) / Excerpt from Publnet (not available in French)*

Legislative Developments—House of Commons

12 December 2011

- Bill C-310, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (trafficking in persons), continued to be debated at second reading, was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights.
- Bill C-11, Copyright Modernization Act, continued to be debated at second reading.
- Bill C-20, Fair Representation Act, was concurred at report stage following a recorded division.
- Bill C-24, Canada–Panama Economic Growth and Prosperity Act, was debated at second reading.

13 December 2011

- Conservative MP Larry Miller (Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, ON) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled An Act to amend the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act and the International River Improvements Act. Bill C-383 was read a first time.
- Bill C-20, Fair Representation Act, was debated at third reading and read a third time following a recorded division.
- Bill C-307, An Act to amend the Canada Labour Code (pregnant or nursing employees), was debated at second reading.

14 December 2011

- Conservative MP David Tilson (Dufferin—Caledon, ON) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled An Act to amend the Youth Criminal Justice Act (publication of information). Bill C-384 was read a first time.
- Conservative MP Brad Trost (Saskatoon—Humboldt, SK) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled An Act respecting ownership of uranium mines in Canada. Bill C-385 was read a first time.
- Bill C-23, Canada–Jordan Economic Growth and Prosperity Act, was debated at second reading.
- Conservative MP David Tilson (Dufferin—Caledon, ON) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled An Act to amend the Youth Criminal Justice Act (publication of information). Bill C-384 was read a first time.
- Conservative MP Brad Trost (Saskatoon—Humboldt, SK) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled An Act respecting ownership of uranium mines in Canada. Bill C-385 was read a first time.

15 December 2011

- Conservative MP James Bezan (Selkirk-Interlake, MB) introduced a Private Members' Bill entitled An Act warning Canadians of the cancer risks of using tanning equipment. Bill C-386 was read a first time.
- Bill C-26, Citizen's Arrest and Self-defence Act, continued to be debated at second reading, was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

Legislative Developments—Senate

12 December 2011

- Bill C-13, Keeping Canada's Economy and Jobs Growing Act, was debated at third reading.
- Bill C-29, An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the financial year ending March 31, 2012, was debated at third reading and was read a third time.

13 December 2011

000469

- Bill S-207, An Act to amend the Interpretation Act (non-derogation of aboriginal and treaty rights), was introduced and read a first time.
- Bill C-13, Keeping Canada's Economy and Jobs Growing Act, continued to be debated at third reading and read a third time.
- Bill C-18, Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act, was debated at third reading.
- Bill C-10, Safe Streets and Communities Act, continued to be debated at second reading.
- Bill C-20, Fair Representation Act, was read a first time, debated at second reading, was read a second time and referred to the Standing committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

14 December 2011

- Bill C-18, Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act, continued to be debated at third reading.
- Bill C-10, Safe Streets and Communities Act, continued to be debated at second reading.

15 December 2011

- Bill S-5, Financial System Review Act, was reported back from the Standing Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce.
- Bill C-20, Fair Representation Act, was reported back from the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs.
- Bill C-10, Safe Streets and Communities Act, continued to be debated at second reading.
- Bill C-18, Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act, continued to be debated at third reading.
- Bill C-13, Keeping Canada's Economy and Jobs Growing Act, received royal assent.
- Bill C-29, An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the financial year ending March 31, 2012, received royal assent.

16 December 2011

- Bill C-20, Fair Representation Act, was debated at third reading, was read a third time, and received royal assent.
- Bill C-10, Safe Streets and Communities Act, was continued to be debated at second reading, read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs.
- Bill S-5, Financial System Review Act, was debated at third reading and read a third time.
- Bill S-203, Boards of Directors Modernization Act, was read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce.

Reports from Committees—House of Commons

12 December 2011

- The Standing Committee on the Status of Women presented its First Report entitled Ending Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls: Empowerment - A New Beginning.
- The Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs presented its Second Report entitled Commemorative Celebrations in the 21st Century.
- The Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs presented its Twelfth Report entitled Private Members' Business.

14 December 2011

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- The Standing Committee on Finance presented its Fifth Report entitled Staying Focused On Canadian Jobs And Growth.

Tabled Documents—House of Commons

12 December 2011

- A report on investigation from the Commissioner of Lobbying was tabled.
- The Report on the five-year review of the Farm Income Protection Act (FIPA), pursuant to the Farm Income Protection Act, S.C. 1991, c. 22, s. 20 was deposited with the Clerk and laid upon the table

13 December 2011

- The December 2011 Report of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development was tabled and referred to the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development.
- The Report of the Canada Pension Plan, together with the Auditor General's Report, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Canada Pension Plan Act, R.S. 1985, c. C-8, sbs. 117(2) was deposited with the Clerk

14 December 2011

The following were deposited with the Clerk and laid upon the table:

- Minutes of Proceedings of the Board of Internal Economy of the House of Commons for June 13 and 20, September 26, October 3, 24 and 31 and November 14, 2011, pursuant to Standing Order 148(1).
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2010-2011 to 2014-2015 and of the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2010-2011 of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Summaries of the Corporate Plan for 2011-2012 to 2015-2016 and of the Operating and Capital Budgets for 2011-2012 of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 125(4).
- Corporate Business Plan for 2011-2012 of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, pursuant to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act, S.C. 1997, c. 6, s. 22.

The Second Annual report on the Activities of the Extractive Sector Corporate Social Responsibility Council from October 2010 to 2011 period prepared by the Extractive Sector for Corporate Responsibility Council, was presented.

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation 2011 annual report was presented.

15 December 2011

The following were deposited with the Clerk and laid upon the table:

- Debt Management Report for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, R.S. 1985, c. F-11, sbs. 49(1).
- Summary of the Corporate Plan for 2011-2012 to 2015-2016 of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, pursuant to the Broadcasting Act, S.C. 1991, c. 11, sbs. 55(4).

Parliamentary Committee Activities—House of Commons

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

13 December 2011

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The Committee resumed its study of Land-Use and sustainable economic development. Ronnie Campbell (OAG) and John Moffet (EC) made statements and, with the other witnesses, answered questions.

Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics

13 December 2011

The Committee commenced the statutory review of the Lobbying Act. Karen Shepherd made a statement and, with the other witnesses, answered questions.

Agriculture and Agri-Food

15 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2 (Business Risk Management Programs).

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed that the Committee pursue its study of Growing Forward 2 with the theme of "Marketing and Trade" followed by "Meeting Consumer Demands".

13 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study on Growing Forward 2 (Business Risk Management Programs).

Citizenship and Immigration

15 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study of the immigration application backlogs in light of the Action Plan for Faster Immigration.

The Committee resumed consideration of a draft report; proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business.

13 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study of the immigration application backlogs in light of the Action Plan for Faster Immigration. The Committee commenced consideration of a draft report.

Environment and Sustainable Development

13 December 2011

The Committee commenced its study of the plans for ozone monitoring initiatives. Karen Dodds (EC) made a statement and, with Charles A. Lin, answered questions.

The Committee commenced consideration of the December 2011 Report of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development. Scott Vaughan made a statement and, with Bruce Sloan, Andrew Ferguson and James McKenzie, answered questions.

Finance

13 December 2011

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

- that the Committee begin its study on tax incentives for charitable donations when the House of Commons resumes sitting in January 2012.
- that a news release to announce the Committee's study on tax incentives for charitable donations and to invite the public to submit briefs in relation to the study be published on the Committee's website.

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Foreign Affairs and International Development

13 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study on the role of the private sector in achieving Canada's international development interests. Jack Mintz made a statement and answered questions. Daniel Runde made a statement and answered questions. Robert Schulz made a statement and answered questions.

Government Operations

13 December 2011

The Committee commenced consideration of the certificate of nomination of Mario Dion to the position of Public Sector Integrity Commissioner which was referred to the Committee on Wednesday, December 7, 2011. Mario Dion made a statement and answered questions.

Health

14 December 2011

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed that the Committee

- that the Committee undertake a study of Bill C-314, An Act respecting the awareness of screening among women with dense breast tissue, at its first meeting in 2012.
- that the Committee hold the remaining three meetings on its study of health promotion and disease prevention on February 1, 6, and 8 2012.
- that the summary of evidence prepared by the Analysts regarding its studies of chronic disease related to aging and health promotion and disease prevention be considered by the Committee on February 13, 2012.
- that the Committee hold two meetings on its study of neurological diseases on February 15 and 27, 2012.
- that the Committee proceed to the consideration of a draft report on its studies of chronic disease related to aging and health promotion and disease prevention on February 29, 2012.

12 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study of health promotion and disease prevention.

Industry, Science and Technology

12 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study of the e-commerce market in Canada. The Committee commenced consideration of a draft report.

National Defence

15 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces. VAdm Bruce Donaldson made a statement and answered questions.

13 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study of maintaining the readiness of the Canadian Forces. LGen André Deschamps made a statement and answered questions.

Natural Resources

14 December 2011

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed

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- that the Committee undertake a study on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada; that the next four meetings be held on this study;
- that, following the meetings on the current and future state of oil and gas pipelines and refining capacity in Canada, two additional meetings be held to focus on mining, in relation to the study on resource development in Northern Canada.

12 December 2011

The Committee commenced its study on the state of the forestry sector in Canada.

Public Accounts

14 December 2011

The Committee commenced consideration of Chapter 3, Reserve Force Pension Plan—National Defence, of the Spring 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada. Jerome Berthelette (OAG), Robert Fonberg and VAdm Bruce Donaldson (DND) made statements and, with RAdm Andrew Smith, Kevin Lindsey and Dave Grandmaison (DND).

12 December 2011

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business. It was agreed, that in early February 2012, the Committee meet informally with a delegation from the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa.

The Committee commenced consideration of a draft report on Chapter 3, Internal Audit, of the 2011 Status Report of the Auditor General of Canada.

Public Safety and National Security

13 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study of drugs and alcohol in prisons.

Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

12 December 2011

The Committee resumed its study of the National Public Transit Strategy.

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